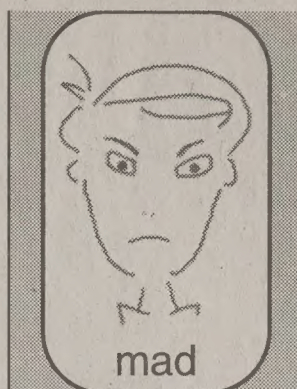


Anger

BYU's counseling workshop on tonight and Friday night, will focus on anger management.

Page 5



Prepare

The men's gymnastics team prepares for its final two home meets ever.

Page 11



Film

Richard Dutcher, film writer, producer and director, will speak to students today at 11 a.m.

Page 8



The Daily Universe

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HEGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

PROVO, UTAH

VOL. 53 ISSUE 110



Heicher escorts a group of children to safety after a shooting outside of Pittsburgh, Penn., on Wednesday afternoon.

The gunman set his apartment on fire before shooting a maintenance worker at his apartment and customers in two fast-food restaurants.

Gunman shoots five near Pittsburgh

Associated Press

WILKINSBURG, Pa. — A gunman who reportedly flew into a rage over a broken door went on a rampage Wednesday, shooting a maintenance worker at his apartment and customers at two fast-food restaurants before surrendering to police during a hostage standoff. Two people were killed and three critically wounded.

Ronald Taylor, 39, of Wilksburg, was arrested in an office building after he kept police at bay for two hours, holding four or five people in wheelchairs hostage at a senior hospice center.

"His mood went from anger to confusion — distraught, fear and remorse," said Sgt. John Fisher, a negotiator for the Pittsburgh SWAT team who talked to Taylor. "He bantered back and forth between killing himself and surrendering."

During the standoff, more than three-dozen children from a third-floor day-care center in the building were evacuated, along with other workers.

Taylor, who was arraigned Wednesday night, was charged with two counts of criminal homicide — an umbrella charge that includes various degrees of murder and manslaughter. The specific charges Taylor may face will be set at a subsequent hearing. No bail was set, and Taylor was not required to enter a plea.

Fisher said Taylor told him that he was upset about a broken door at his apartment.

A worker at Taylor's building said the suspected gunman, who is black, was angry that workers had not repaired the door fast enough. All the shooting victims were white males, authorities said.

"He said, 'You're all white trash, racist pigs,'" maintenance worker John DeWitt told The Associated Press.

DeWitt said he and two other workers, one black and one white, tried to ignore Taylor as they fixed the door. At one point, the abuse got so bad DeWitt said he picked up a hammer to defend himself.

"He looked at me and said, 'You're dead,'" DeWitt said.

DeWitt said he left to work on another apartment but later saw one of his colleagues carrying the other worker, who had been shot. DeWitt said he then saw Taylor walking toward the restaurants.

The shooting spree began about 11:15 a.m. in this working-class suburb about nine miles east of downtown Pittsburgh. Police, responding to a call, followed him to the restaurants and chased him into the office building.

Four people were shot at the Burger King and McDonald's restaurants along the main street in the borough of about 21,000 people.

Egyptian ambassador counsels students about foreign relations

CHICAGO HASSELL
newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Embassy Ambassador Nabil Fahmy said he hopes a moment between the Syrians and the Lebanese will be reached by the end of the year.

He also expects an agreement with Lebanon to follow within a matter of days.

He said he was based on a balance of interest, not a balance of power for the peace to be reached. Fahmy on Wednesday said he was at the David M. Gates Center for International Studies at the University of Chicago.

He said his hope for the peace was based on his belief that the Middle East always prevails.

He also gave advice to those traveling to the region should try to learn as much as possible about the country's history as possible to understand the context of the situation or she will be dealing



NABIL FAHMY

Fahmy also spoke about Egyptian-U.S. relations, saying Americans should be proud of the things they have done as a nation. He also said that Americans and Egyptians have many areas of commonality.

"Egyptians promote the same objectives as the U.S. and have many common principles," Fahmy said.

Fahmy also said he was amazed at how much the average American knows about Egypt. He said that Egypt is working to increase the average person's knowledge of modern Egypt.

The ambassador said that he has enjoyed every part of his brief visit to Utah.

"I have felt very warmly welcomed by all those that I have met and was particularly touched by my visit to both the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ and Temple Square," Fahmy said.

Erlend Peterson, BYU's dean of admissions, said that having ambassadors visit helps them see The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in a new and more complete light.

Fahmy said he was particularly impressed with the similarities between the works and values of the church and those of Egypt, particularly in the areas of strengthening families and helping others.

"I was extremely impressed with their commitment to peace," Fahmy said.

The ambassador's wife, Nermin Fahmy, who accompanied him on his trip to Utah, said, "Egyptians have a great sense of family and not allowing someone in need to remain in need."

Mrs. Fahmy also said that those who travel to another country should always be sure to study its cultural norms to avoid embarrassment and to avoid offending its natives.

Nigerian president decries violence

Associated Press

Abuja — Amid reports of violence that killed 200 people, President Obasanjo on Wednesday decried religious violence that has plagued the country, mourning that the people have lost their "sense of humanity."

Obasanjo said at least 200 people were killed in revenge attacks between Muslims in the north and Kaduna that killed more than 100 people.

Obasanjo said the violence was a tragedy for the Ibo ethnic group, but he said he was not a member of any ethnic group. He said he was not a member of any ethnic group.

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earlier this week to Kaduna, where entire blocks were left in ruins by the clashes.

"I could not believe that Nigerians were capable of such barbarism against one another, but what I saw there was perhaps even more gruesome in detail" than the media reports, he said.

"The devastation was so massive. It seemed overnight that Kaduna was turned into a battlefield."

Obasanjo criticized Nigerians for becoming callous to bloody ethnic and religious violence that regularly tear at the country and to the widespread corruption that flourished during 15 years of military rule.

"There is nothing in our culture that even remotely justifies the cynicism with which so many of us respond today to acts of lawlessness and wickedness. We have lost our sense of outrage and moral sensitivity," said Obasanjo, whose election last year ended army rule.

The violence has been sparked by arguments over Shariah, or Islamic law, which went into effect earlier this year in one northern state and which was going to be put into effect in two

more in the largely Muslim north.

For years, Islamic courts have settled civil cases, such as divorces and inheritances, among Muslims. But the new Shariah created courts with the power to try criminal cases involving Muslims and mete out punishments.

While Shariah supporters insist the laws would only apply to Muslims, the moves toward Shariah have infuriated Nigeria's Christians, many of whom feel they would eventually be bound by Islamic customs.

The violence in Kaduna began during a Christian demonstration against Shariah, and revenge attacks followed in a number of southeastern towns, including Abuja.

Trying to end the violence, Obasanjo's government convinced northern leaders Tuesday to back away from attempts to introduce Shariah.

The informal agreement said states that already had Shariah would stop enforcing it, while states seeking to put it into effect would hold off for now.

Obasanjo said he had sent legislators, ministers and governors to their home regions to try to cool tempers and explain the agreement.



Jenny Barnett/Daily Universe

Spectators fill the gallery Monday at the Utah legislative session. The 2000 session, that focused much on education, wrapped up Wednesday night.

Utah legislature wraps up

Utah House funds biggest education boost in 10 years

By LINDSAY PALMER
palmer@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

By the end of the 2000 Utah legislative session Wednesday, legislators had met Gov. Michael Leavitt's challenge to make it a session about education.

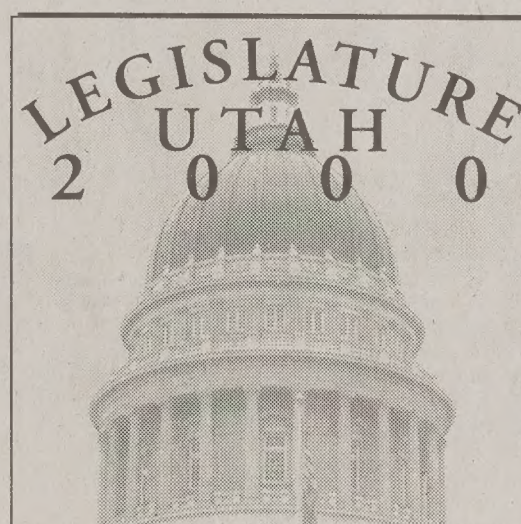
With more than 100 proposed education bills, education funding packages, heavy lobbying, rallying and even a walkout for one school district, educators and legislators worked hard to reach a compromise for the future of Utah's education.

According to Rep. Ron Bigelow, R-West Valley City, and Phyllis Sorensen, Utah Education Association President, it was frustrating at times for those on both ends of the lobbying process.

During the session, some education bills passed easily, while others never found their way out of committees and onto the floor.

And it took a few tries before legislators came up with an education-funding package that pleased the teachers.

But educators should feel satisfied with the results of their lobby-



ing efforts, said Doug Bates, counsel for the State Education Office.

"The financial package was really very good," Bates said. "Educators have every reason to congratulate legislators."

In the end, the legislature passed a public education budget with a 7.2 percent increase in the total weighted pupil unit, or \$113.4 million.

Sen. Howard Stephenson, R-Draper, said the legislature streamlined all the other programs to come up with education funding.

"The legislature agreed to every single funding demand of public education," Stephenson said.

While UEA members are concerned that the legislature did not adequately address the sustainability of the funding, they say it is a beginning.

"We've got the biggest increase

Opinions differ among lawmakers on 2000 session

By BRIAN D. HENDERSON
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NewsNet Staff Writer

The 2000 Utah Legislature ended Wednesday with Democrats and Republicans pointing to the 7 percent increase in education funding as the hallmark of the session.

"We stepped up funding in a big way for education," said Sen. Pete Suazo, D-Salt Lake. "Although it took pressure from educators to do that."

But Suazo pointed out that even with the increase, Utah still ranks dead last in per-pupil spending. He said it is a sign that there is still a long way to go.

Sen. Michael Waddoups, R-Taylorsville, said he was proud of the financial package lawmakers put together. He said although lawmakers matched the goals Gov. Michael Leavitt outlined in his State of the State address, it came at a price for higher education.

"I'm disappointed we couldn't get more for higher education," Waddoups said. "We've got great pro-

News Briefs

Compiled from staff and news service reports

Utah personnel prepare for quakes

OGDEN — Scientists and geological experts think it is just a matter of time before an earthquake hits the Wasatch Front. So to prepare, emergency personnel from Weber County and Ogden are taking special class at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Md. The center is run by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to test individuals' and groups' abilities to effectively manage a disaster. "The fact that we've already identified weaknesses in our plan is actually a strength, in that we have identified areas that we can go work on," said Ogden Fire Chief Mike Mathieu. "The fact that Weber County is a venue site for the Olympics, I'm sure that had something to do with you being placed on top of the priority list," said Lowell Ezersky, chief exercise controller for the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Management Institute.

Boy's death an accident, police say

The hanging of a 7-year-old boy appears to be an accident, not suicide as originally thought, according to the Orem Police Department. The Orem boy was found dead in his room Friday, hanging by a belt from a bunk bed. "Our investigation has found no evidence to indicate this was anything more than a tragic accident," Police Lt. Ned Jackson said on Tuesday. "It's looking like he was just playing around and got tangled up," Jackson said. "But he was the only one in the room, so we will never know for sure." First reports said the child had been sent to his room for disciplinary reasons, suggesting he committed suicide. But adults who knew the boy said that would have been out of character. "I cannot believe this child took his life," said Muffet Reeves, principal of Sharon Elementary School, which the boy attended. "He was always smiling and came from a loving home."

A crisis intervention team was brought in to the school Monday to talk to at least three classrooms of children where the boy or his siblings attended class.

Finland elects first female president

HELSINKI, Finland — Tarja Halonen, a former left-wing radical known for her down-to-earth manner, took office Wednesday as Finland's first female president, but with less powers than any of her 10 predecessors. During Halonen's tenure, not much is expected to change in foreign policy because of a wide consensus among politicians and broad influence given to lawmakers.

Halonen said she wants to help bridge the gap between high-income earners and the poor.

A jovial, former staunch unionist lawyer and Social Democrat, Halonen had been foreign minister in the five-party coalition government since 1995 and a lawmaker since 1979.

Many pundits predicted that Halonen's left-wing tendencies and untraditional lifestyle would work against her. A divorcee with an adult child, she lives with a boyfriend whom she says she will not marry.

House vote repeals earnings limit

WASHINGTON — In uncommon election-year bipartisanship, House Republicans and Democrats united Wednesday behind legislation allowing 800,000 senior citizens between ages 65 and 69 to work without fear of losing Social Security benefits. President Clinton pledged his support.

The House voted 422-0 to send the Senate a bill repealing the Social Security earnings limit, which amounts to a penalty of \$1 in benefits for every \$3 a recipient earns over \$17,000 this year.

Sponsors said the time has arrived to scrap the Depression-era law, originally enacted to make more jobs available for younger workers. Retailers, restaurants and other businesses are battling a labor shortage, and Congress is searching for accomplishments to offer senior voters.

"Americans are living longer now, and older Americans can work, they want to work, and they shouldn't be punished by an outdated law," said Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas.

Police to take aim at racial profiling

Associated Press

NEW YORK — As Congress and the states debate how to root out racial profiling, many of the nation's police departments are moving ahead on their own, requiring officers to record the race of all drivers they stop and question.

From Washington to Oregon to Missouri to Texas, small departments and state agencies are scrutinizing their officers' actions in a first step toward gauging how widespread racial bias among police might be.

While many police see little evidence of racism, they acknowledge the fears.

"We have to deal with perception as much as reality," Michigan State Police Col. Michael Robinson said Wednesday. "If data helps us assure some that we are not engaged in inappropriate behavior — and it gives us information to discuss openly what is occurring out there in the community — then it's appropriate."

Two years ago, many police officials dismissed the worries. Then there were prominent allegations of profiling among the New Jersey State Police and in Florida. A Gallup poll last year, found majorities of both whites and blacks convinced it exists.

President Clinton required federal law-enforcement agencies to record race and gender in all stops. Now, police officials are moving faster than lawmakers.

A year ago, no agencies were voluntarily monitoring the skin color of those they stopped, said John Crew, who heads the American Civil Liberties Union's racial profiling project. Now, there are well over 100. "We can't keep up."

North Carolina and Connecticut are the only states that require police in their states to keep track of race in their traffic stops. At least 18 other states are considering similar legislation.

State police are already monitoring stops or are taking steps to do so in California, Washington, Ohio, Michigan and Florida. Houston, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, and several cities in California like San Jose and San Diego all announced similar plans.

On Wednesday, the House Judiciary Committee sent to a floor vote a bill for a federal study of police statistics to investigate racial profiling.

Some officials argue that requiring police to check on race can create more tension in police stops. Arlington, Va., Police Chief Ed Flynn said gathering numbers will not solve the problem.

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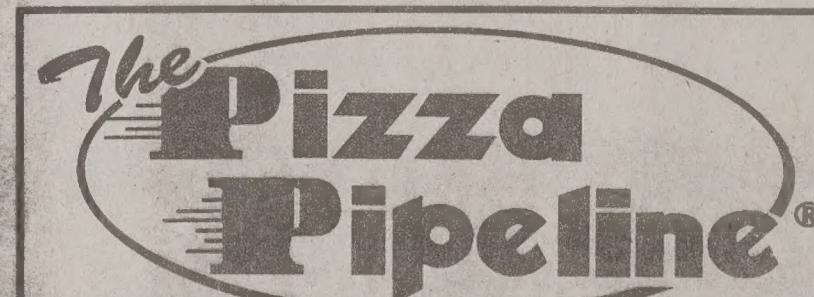
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Weather

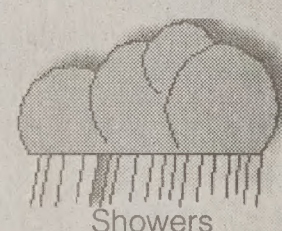
Yesterday

High 50 as of
Low 39 5 p.m.

Precipitation

Yesterday .02"
Month to date .02"
Year to date 5.50"

Today



Showers

High 53
Low 32

Friday



Partly Cloudy

High 56
Low 38

Sources: BYU Geography Dept., CNN

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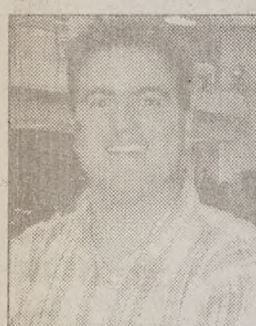
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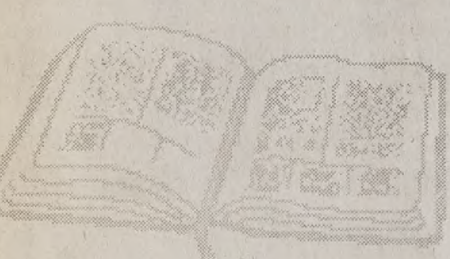


Scripture of the Day

"And I said unto them: If God had commanded me to do all things I could do them. If he should command me that I should say unto this water, be thou earth, it should be earth; and if a I should say, it, it would be done."

— 1 Nephi 17:50

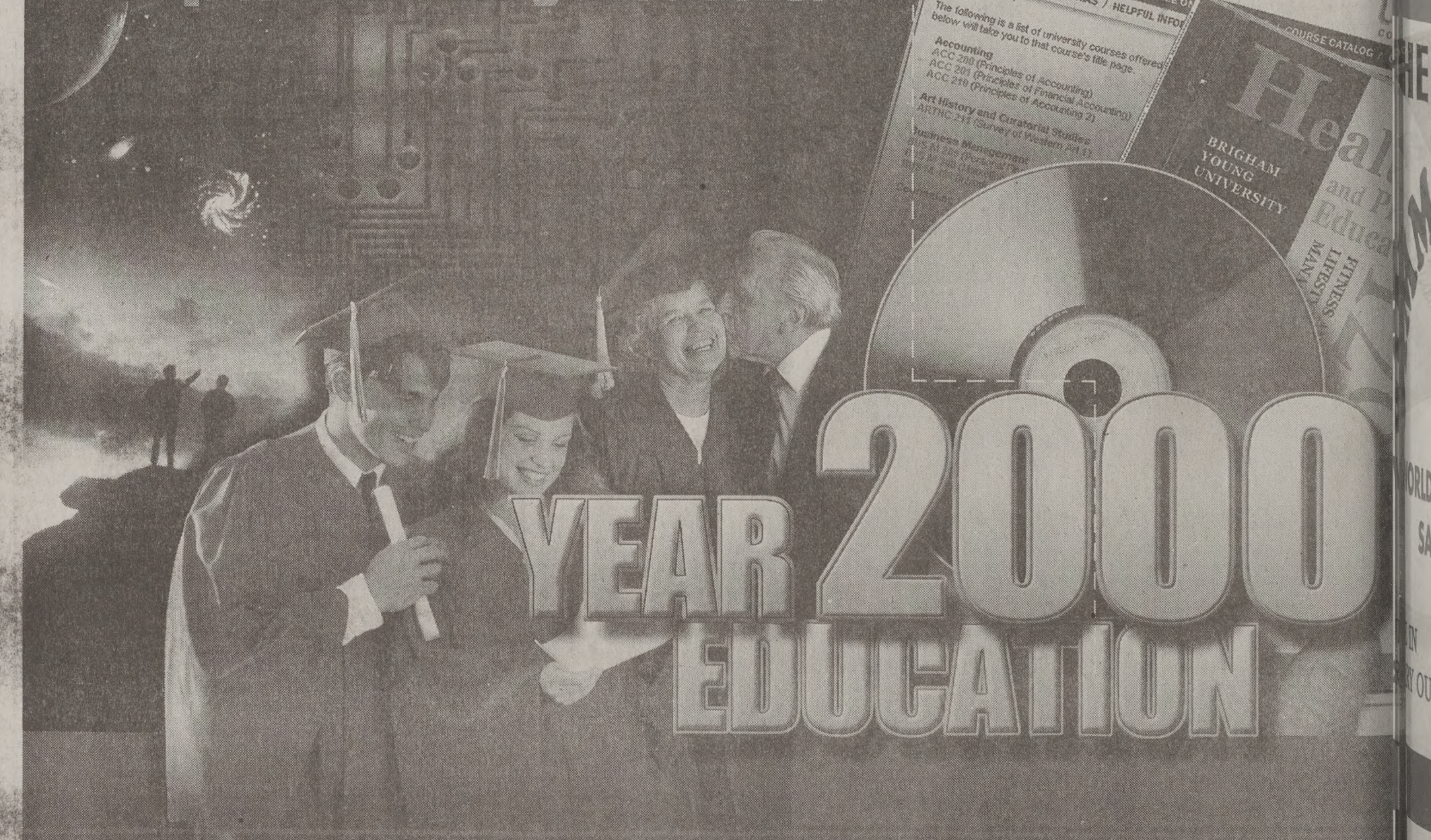
Zach Underwood, 26, a senior from San Bernardino, CA, majoring in sociology likes this scripture because, "this is one more place where Nephi says if the Lord says to do it, it can be done. Whatever is asked by the Lord we can do."



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CD probes problems, tries to shake bad image

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Officers in an elite unit at the center of a corruption scandal believed to be a life-or-death struggle to break the rules, according to an internal report released Wednesday.

The report, which was "routinely made up its mind, for all intents and purposes, as to what was left to function with oversight," said the report released by the Phoenix Police Department's Board of Police Commissioners.

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First-grade shooter found gun at house

Associated Press

MOUNT MORRIS TOWNSHIP, Mich. — The 6-year-old boy who killed a first-grade classmate used a stolen gun he apparently discovered loaded and lying around in a bedroom at the "flop house" where he was living, investigators said Wednesday.

Authorities focused on possible criminal charges against any adults who gave the boy access to the .32-caliber pistol he used to shoot 6-year-old Kayla Rolland on Tuesday morning, a day after the two apparently had scuffled on the playground at Buell Elementary School.

The boy is too young to understand what he was doing, and probably will not be charged, the prosecutor said.

After the shooting, the boy put the gun in his desk and went to the school office, Superintendent Ira Rutherford said.

After police questioned him, Police Chief Eric King said, he "sat there drawing pictures."

"He is a victim in many ways," Genesee County Prosecutor Arthur Busch said. "It is very sad. We need to put our arms around him and love him."

Busch said the house where the boy and his 8-year-old brother were staying with an uncle was frequented by strangers, and the boy's father — who is in jail — told the sheriff that people at the house traded crack cocaine for guns.

The ramshackle house is surrounded by mud-caked trash, and the front yard is cluttered with an empty vodka bottle and a rusting black Camaro. The home has tattered and stained curtains, and fluttering plastic garbage bags taped over broken windows.

The boy and his brother had been staying for about two weeks with the uncle — their mother's brother — after the mother had been evicted from her home, Busch said.

The uncle, Sirmarcus B. Winfrey, was arrested Tuesday night on an outstanding warrant on charges of receiving stolen property and was to be questioned, police said. A second man, who authorities believe once had the gun used in the shooting, turned himself in Wednesday for questioning.

"It's our understanding from the police investigation that this gun

was obtained from a bedroom under some blankets," Busch said at a news conference.

Investigators also found a stolen 12-gauge shotgun and drugs in the house, the prosecutor said.

Outside the school Wednesday, mourners created memorials of candles, flowers and cards for Kayla, who died a half-hour after she was shot once in the chest. Classes were canceled for the day, but counselors were on hand for anyone who needed them.

Sheila Alger and her 4-year-old son, Austin, placed a teddy bear at the school's front door. "He doesn't understand, and I don't think other kids do," Alger said.

"I don't think the boy who did it understands."

The boy's father told the sheriff that his son had been suspended from school for fighting and for stabbing a girl with a pencil.

The 29-year-old father heard about Tuesday's shooting from a cellmate and "a cold, sinking feeling came over him because he knew it was his son," Sheriff Robert J. Pickell said.

"He said (his son) liked to watch the violent movies, the television shows."

The sheriff said the father told him that when he asked his son why he fought with other children, the boy "told him that he hated them."

When police went to the boy's uncle's house, "there were several people just hanging out. I call it a flop house," Busch said.

ALASKA SUMMER JOBS

At a small lodge in Denali National Park

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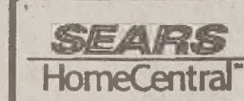
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Read Across America Celebrates Dr. Seuss

BY SA PHILLIPS

newsroom.byu.edu
Net Staff Writer

Across the nation are taking time today to celebrate the birthday of one of the masters of nonsense — Dr.

Seuss. The third-annual Read Across America celebration, more than 100 adults are expected to participate today. The National Education Association will read a poem: "The Cat in the Hat."

Dr. Seuss wrote morals into his stories, but didn't push them, she said. Kids don't like to be preached to, and Dr. Seuss found a balance, she said.

"There is something fun and lyrical about the language. It gives a fun, pleasant lift and a chuckle," Bestor said.

Not all educators are promoting the rhymes, however. Debra Black, librarian at American Heritage School in Pleasant Grove, argues the value of reading Dr. Seuss to children.

"I can't stand the guy," she said. "The books are pointless."

Seuss himself said, "I like nonsense, it wakes up the brain cells. Fantasy is a necessary ingredient in living, it's a way of looking at life through the wrong end of a telescope, which is what I do, and that enables you to laugh at all of life's realities."

Theodor Seuss Geisel was born March 2, 1904. Seuss joined the army during World War II, where he produced documentaries and political cartoons, many of which evolved into his book characters.

In response to a 1954 report on illiteracy among children, Seuss used a list of 250 important words for children and wrote "The Cat in the Hat," which was his first success. In 1960, Seuss wrote "Green Eggs and Ham" using only 50 words.

Hartley said all the books had been checked out, and he had 15 books from the library for the celebration. She enjoys reading the books to the children.

Books should be read until the child is asleep, she said. "Most adults take the books too seriously, and often smother the child with them. Teachers should read Seuss to all ages."

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Trying to decide which Pest Control Company to work for this summer?

Here are some interesting facts about Dewey and the competition

FACT: Eclipse Marketing started out selling for Dewey, not Orkin. (Dewey entered the market at the same time as Eclipse).

FACT: Eclipse knows from their own experience that selling for Dewey works. (They left when they got a contract with Orkin and couldn't market for both companies because of a conflict of interests).

FACT: If you've been hired as a first-year rep with Eclipse, you'll start at 11-12% commission.

FACT: With Dewey all first-year reps start at 20% (almost double what Eclipse is paying).

FACT: Dewey will provide each rep with \$100 cash at the end of April to get from Utah to their area, plus you get a vehicle, gas card, cell phone w/ 250 minutes. With Eclipse, you're left on your own.

FACT: Dewey has been around since 1929, we employ over 400 people, and we gross well over \$30 million in annual revenues. We are a well-known, high-profile company in Southern California with a clientele that includes NBC Studios in Burbank, CA.; home of the "Tonight Show with Jay Leno; the Rose Bowl; and other prestigious accounts.

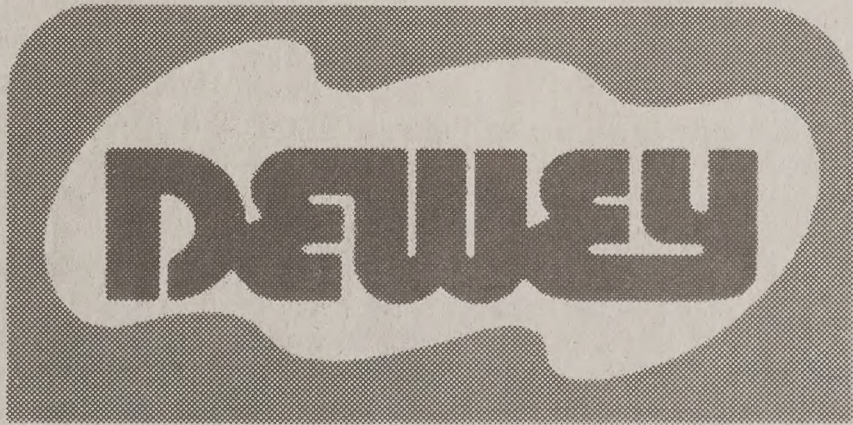
FACT: Wasatch Pest Control isn't even listed in the phone book! It's program is being run by the same guy who started Spidex three-years ago. The company folded and the reps were never paid.

FACT: Dewey reps will be working in Southern California. Historically, this has been the best market in the Nation for pest control sales.

FACT: Dewey has the resources and the experience to get your accounts serviced, (the same day it is sold, or the next day) and to pay you upfront, (100% every two weeks).

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The

Daily Universe

O P I N I O N

Media magnify crime

FBI statistics tell us crime is down. Murder was down 13 percent in 1999 from the previous year, and the national crime index is down 10 percent.

But then we're confronted by CNN reports and front-page headlines telling us a first-grader in Michigan took a gun to school and shot a classmate. No one is sure exactly why, but one possibility is a schoolyard dispute a day or two before the shooting.

The boy took the gun, which was already loaded, from off a bed in the house where he was living. The boy's environment seems to have been a negative one. His father is in prison on a parole violation, and the police searched the house where the boy was living and found another stolen gun and drugs.

But the boy was 6 years old. Genesee County Prosecutor Arthur Busch said no charges were going to be filed against the shooter, though charges will be pursued against those responsible for giving the boy access to the .32-caliber gun.

Unlike the premeditated madness of Littleton, this was done by a child who was most likely unaware of the consequences. What is death to a child when he's seen a thousand deaths on television? What is wrong with it, when characters on movies and television use violence and vengeance as reasonable responses to conflict?

Though crime is down, national polls show fear on the rise. Though we try to teach our children to resolve conflict peaceably, their Saturday morning heroes paint a different reality.

It's easy for the media to pass the responsibility. But in a day where we hold cigarette makers responsible for the health problems they have caused in their pursuit of profit, how much different are those who package violence and sell it, disregarding any effect it might have, hiding behind the First Amendment.

But all these theories and games of blame will not bring back the victim and will be little consolation to her family. Nor will it lessen the haunting effect this will have on the shooter the rest of his life as he becomes old enough to fully realize what he has done.

Is the next step metal detectors and police officers in elementary schools? Is this a national trend toward child perpetrated violence, or merely an isolated incident?

Though we don't have answers to these questions, one thing is clear: Many groups in America need to look themselves in the mirror and examine what they can do.

Foremost, media outlets of all kinds need to take a deep, introspective look at what they produce. Newspaper coverage, movie themes and television content need to be examined.

Because when a 6-year-old thinks a gun will solve his problems, the availability of the weapon isn't the only problem.

This editorial is the opinion of The Daily Universe Editorial Board. Daily Universe opinions are not necessarily opinions of BYU, its administrators or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Viewpoint

A troublesome treaty

Volunteering for a cause is wonderful. However, sometimes things are not as they appear. Last week, Amnesty International, which usually deals with political prisoners, was on campus soliciting signatures supporting ratification of the Convention on Elimination of Discrimination Against Women treaty.

No reasonable person supports gender discrimination, and most of the treaty is unremarkable. A letter in Tuesday's Daily Universe said that CEDAW is abortion-neutral. This is true of the treaty text, but absolutely false when describing the committee set up by the treaty. The committee has a long, documented history of abortion advocacy and is stridently anti-religion and anti-family. By interpreting the treaty, the committee actually makes law for the nations that ratify CEDAW.

There are at least four major reasons why you should write to your senator urging a "no" vote on CEDAW. First, the treaty gives a non-elected committee of "experts" the power to determine each nation's laws. Second, the CEDAW committee continually pushes a radical anti-family agenda having little to do with the problems women face worldwide. Third, the committee continually urges governments to pressure individuals and religions to conform to its views. Fourth, our nation's anti-discrimination laws make CEDAW unnecessary.

The committee's agenda is clear from the many times it has said that nations must recognize a woman's unrestricted right to an abortion; must view the natural family of man, woman and child as a tool of oppression; must recognize, within human rights, alternative lifestyles such as homosexuality; and must give complete sex education, including contraception and abortion information, to girls age 11 and up.

For example, the committee's 1994 recommendations specifically refer to forced pregnancies, a term never encountered until pro-abortion attorneys began using it in the United States. In this area, forced pregnancy has nothing to do with rape or how the pregnancy started; a woman is forced if anyone tries to inhibit her from having an

abortion at any time. In a 1989 U.S. Supreme Court case, Webster v. Reproductive Health Services, 77 organizations filed a "friend of the court" brief which extensively used the term "forced pregnancy" in precisely this manner. Pro-abortion legal commentators continue to so use it.

In 1996, the committee provided its support to a roundtable of human rights groups. For example, the committee said that gender equality required that women "be able to make reproductive decisions free of interference by spouses or others claiming an interest." U.S. courts give the woman's interest strong place but also consider the interests of the father and of society; CEDAW finds even this compromise unacceptable.

The roundtable report notes approvingly a suggestion from a different human rights committee for "ensuring adolescent access to sex education and decision-making in

respect to reproductive and sexual health services." International law defines an adolescent as someone over 10 years old. Reproductive health means abortion. The report also suggests interpreting human rights treaties to cover sexual orientation, although no treaty lists it as a specially-protected class.

Recently, the CEDAW committee has urged several nations to reinterpret their religious and cultural traditions to fit the committee's interpretation of CEDAW. This clearly violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and would violate our Constitution.

Women worldwide face real problems, such as mutilation, forced prostitution and economic dislocation. There are better solutions, however, than CEDAW.

Ratification of CEDAW would accomplish nothing new for American women; it would only subject our country to a committee so radical it could never win a single election here. And that's what CEDAW is really about — giving great power to a tiny band of extremists who would never win in a fair, democratic forum.

Steve is a third-year law student from Springville.

By
Steve Setzer

Special to
The Daily Universe

GUNS DON'T KILL PEOPLE. CHILDREN EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE AS ENTERTAINMENT AND ALLOWED EASY ACCESS TO FIREARMS KILL PEOPLE.

DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF A SIX YEAR OLD GIRL FROM MICHIGAN.

Press has responsibility to voters

Letters came into The Daily Universe suggesting the negative press about the candidates in this year's election was the result of a giddy pen. Some thought The Daily Universe was relishing in the unintentional faults of students running for office.

But The Daily Universe relishes in truth and insight, not in the defamation of others.

In years past, the press on campus has usually promoted elections and praised BYUSA. The approach taken to the elections was normally harmonious and non-confrontational. But this year, the aspiring officers who put themselves into the spotlight to be evaluated actually were evaluated. And problems were found. Platforms that the candidates preached were misleading. Candidates were campaign-

ing for reform that was not validated by administration officials, and two of the candidates were not qualified to run for office. The Daily Universe observed these problems and reported the facts.

Many followers of certain campaigns and even readers unattached with the elections have criticized The Daily Universe for its coverage. E-mails came in that shot at its integrity. Many asked how it could attack candidates without regard for their character. They asked the paper to stop being negative and unfair.

But the issues were the sources of negativity, not the press.

With the array of responses — the offended, the flabbergasted and the ones who said, "it's about time" — an awakening of the press took place on campus that enlivened the student body and caused

people to think about what a nation should and should not do. That's refreshing.

It was Napoleon, with the power in mind, who once said, "I read three newspapers more than 10,000 nets. Politicians are always war, the press will do and say. And that's not all that bad. It can be assumed next year's elections will feature dates who will be fully qualified for office and whose platforms were product of the research that requires. Whether that happens or voters will deserve to know.

This editorial is the opinion of The Daily Universe Editorial Board. Daily Universe opinions are not necessarily opinions of BYU, its administrators or The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Readers' Forum

Letters may be submitted at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 WSC, sent by e-mail (letters@du2.byu.edu) or faxed to 378-2959.

Using environment OK

Dear Editor:

I would like to swing the pendulum back to a safe middle ground and try again to view the reality of environmental issues vital to our stewardship here on earth. With all due respect, the author of a letter last week on this issue spoke of an ultra-conservatism that is dangerous to our planet, and I think there is a fallacy in the argument presented. I do not advocate chaining oneself to a tree to prevent it from being cut down, and I certainly don't agree with halting all existing logging operations. But comparing an attempt to save the environment with the guillotine? In my understanding of the gospel, the Lord commands us to use his world prudently, and we are under condemnation if we do not obey by abusing those precious resources (see D&C 59: 18-21). This is not radical thinking, this is doctrine. There can be misuse of this earth, and that is detrimental to us now, to future generations and to our planet itself. If that is not evident there are plenty of cases from science and the media that attest to the truthfulness of this fact.

Eric Fotheringham
Martinez, Calif.

We can be better

Dear Editor:

Finally it's here. The vision that once was only a glimmer of light far away at the end of the tunnel — graduation is almost here. As the years have passed, my eyes have read the wide array of editorials and now I would like to take a short turn to give my two cents about the whole experience.

First, thank you to all those people who have contributed in a uniquely positive way to my education, character and foundation as a student of higher education while attending this university. The professors in the business school have been top-notch, not only academically but also spiritually. Also, kudos to the kind friends who know what the gospel is all about.

Second, seemingly contradicting my first point, BYU has been a great disappointment to me and other people in many ways. We need to do better, not for ourselves, but for the future graduates and students who face an increasingly complicated world of trials. Attendees of the Lord's university must consciously work to mend the great chasm between what visitors perceive and what often goes on here behind the scenes (we won't get into NCMO). The materialism and selfishness, the snide remarks (no allusion to Eric Snider), the smirks and cold faces throughout campus, the beleaguering dating scene that is only tainted by pretense and selfishness — all these can be changed. Materialism and worldliness can take an extended vacation to Las Vegas.

I hope BYU can be better for the future's sake. Let's start soon. It can start with a clearer vision. It can begin with me.

Gary Hallman
Minden, Nev.

Give women some credit

Dear Editor:

I just want BYU to give us women here a little more credit. I don't want them to think that we are so weak and so insecure about our identity that a few pictures commemorating the past of BYU is a threat to us. I want to clarify that, though we may seem weak and incapable of withstanding the pressure of having those pictures hang where no one ever sees them anyway, we are, in fact, able to find the courage within to look at the pictures and say, "It's OK that they are there. I can deal with it. I'm a big girl."

We must stand tall and learn to appreciate the beauty in the world around us and in ourselves. Don't let a few psychologists tell us we're too weak to have pictures in the hallways. We're better than that. Save the pictures!

Leah Brown
Sandy

Parking conspiracy

Dear Editor:

I am writing to expose a conspiracy that is running rampant at this university — parking tickets. Sure, everyone at BYU can buy a parking pass, but what is the pass to parking spot ratio?

I am not one to complain without offering solutions so I have provided three ideas that could provide a solution to this problem.

My first solution is for all of you who have the heinous job of ticketing your fellow brothers and sisters. Rise up and rebel! If we refuse to ticket each other then the problem is solved. We could even take an "A" parking or handicapped slot.

My second solution is that since most of BYU's funding comes from tithing and parking tickets, I suggest a trade-off. I recommend that half the money we pay in parking tickets be tithing deductible.

And third, why don't we just get shuttles that go around the parking lots and shuttle everyone to class? I know I wouldn't mind if tuition went up \$5 to pay for these shuttles. Even UVSC has shuttles.

Now I realize I have probably made myself a target for the BYU traffic officers so I will make it easier on everyone. Mine is the car that says "Bateman" on the license plate.

Jackson Renouf
La Mirada, Calif.

CEDAW has problems

We read with interest the letter in the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. The author apparently did not read the actual document or ignore its insidious implications.

CEDAW notes that religion and culture are counter-productive to women's rights. The world must therefore "modify" its social and cultural patterns of discrimination against men and women" (CEDAW A/48/18). While international organizations have worked to resolve issues such as female genital mutilation and dowry deaths, CEDAW should not have the right to externally dictate religious practices to nations.

The commission responsible for drafting CEDAW is also concerned that they had for many generations promoting a family stereotype by assuming total responsibility for the home." It also went on to order Libya to "reinterpret its laws along with the committee guidelines" (<http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cdaw.htm>).

These "experts" making these sorts of crucial to half our world's population not elected but appointed. Perhaps disturbing, implementing CEDAW would lead the world down the slippery slope of international right to abortion on demand. We urge students to carefully read the minutes before arriving at conclusions. Despite CEDAW's purported support women's rights, it is in fact a logically driven document designed to reshape society in the image of radical feminism.

The World Family Policy Center, endorsed by BYU and supported by the Church, works to further the rights of women and families through positive legal action. For more information on issues or to find out how get involved please see www.ngofamilypolicy.org or contact Jennifer Rockwood at 378-2959.

Jennifer Rockwood
Batesville, Ind.

Kacey Widdison-Jones
Draper

David Jeppesen
Provo

Eric Carlson
Huntington Beach, Calif.

Beth H. H. H.
Joplin, Mo.

J. Phil L. L.
Bountiful, UT

Stewart L. L.
Argyle, GA

Readers' Forum Guidelines

BYU NewsNet invites students, professors and BYU staff to write letters to the editor. Anonymous letters will not be printed. All letters must be typed and are not to exceed 300 words.

Name, home town and phone number must accompany all letters. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity. Letters must be submitted in person at BYU NewsNet offices, 5538 WSC, sent by e-mail to letters@du2.byu.edu (no attachments) or faxed to 378-2959. Eric Setzer, opinion editor, can be reached at 378-2957.

Workshop to address anger

By **ANDREA LAYCOCK**
andrea@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Students and counselors from all over Utah will learn how to manage anger at BYU's counseling workshop today and Friday at 8:30 a.m.

"Anger is a topic that always comes up in counseling and always needs to be addressed," said Richard Moody, chair of the counseling workshop.

The workshop will feature Raymond DiGiuseppe, a professor of psychology at St. John's University, and director of Professional Education at the Albert Ellis Institute for Rational Emotive Therapy in New York City.

Those attending the workshop will be trained on how to diagnose and treat people with anger disorders.

Anger is a condition that differs significantly from other emotional problems, such as anxiety and depression, because angry people rarely seek out

professional help, said Merny Schwartz, a doctor practicing in Brooklyn, N.Y., in an article on healthology.com.

"Some research in the past few years has suggested that anger presents a serious threat to one's health, and my own professional opinion is that anger of all kinds is detrimental to mental well-being," Schwartz said.

Conventional wisdom suggests that anger is a healthy emotion if it is used constructively and expressed rather than held in, but anger is now known to be detrimental both physically and psychologically, Schwartz said.

A Duke University study in the October 1997 issue of Archives of Internal Medicine found that anger is a specific personality characteristic that causes physical illness. The study showed patients with chronic heart problems experienced improvement when they participated in anger reduction sessions.

Other research studies show that

people who express anger often actually experience more physical symptoms and illness than those who hold their anger in, Schwartz said.

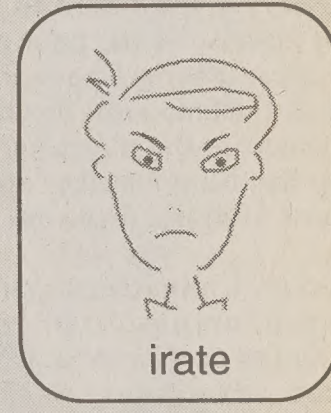
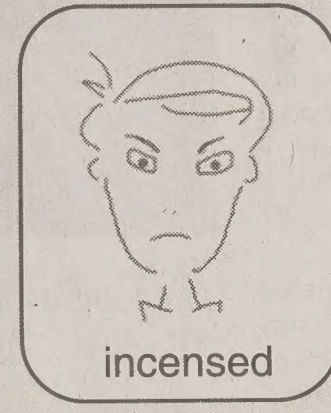
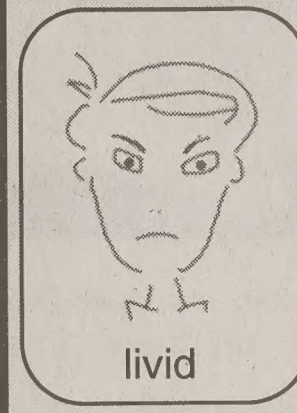
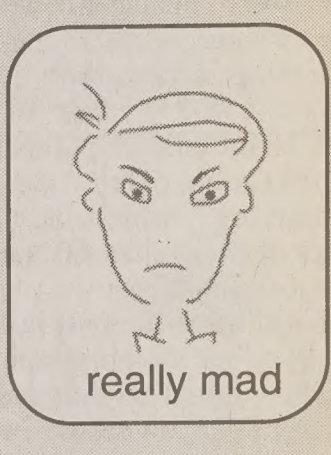
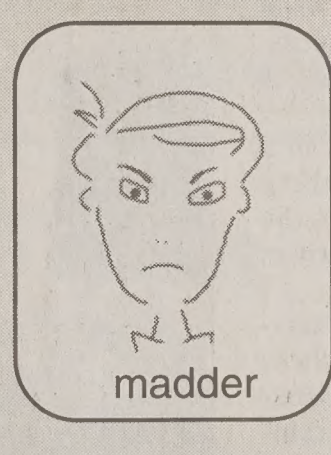
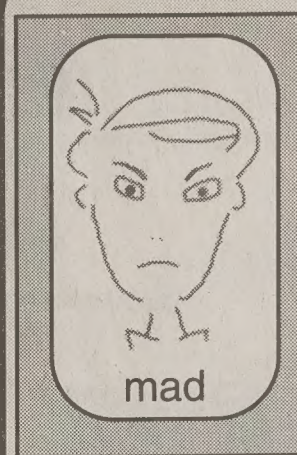
Anger results from expecting and demanding one thing and getting something unexpected, Schwartz said. The more unrealistic the list of expectations and demands someone has, the less likely the demands are to be met, which results in the person getting more angry, Schwartz said.

"We all know that the universe does not cooperate with our plans, but emotionally we behave as if we expect it to," Schwartz said.

Angry people often receive reinforcement from others because they feel entitled to receive sympathy and encouragement for their anger when they feel they have been treated wrongly or unfairly, Schwartz said.

"Do not hope for the best or expect the worst. Expect what you are likely to get, based on your past experience," Schwartz said.

TODAY I FEEL



Fireside to focus on family history

By **EMILY CANNON**
emily@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Elder D. Todd Christofferson of the presidency of the First Quorum of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will speak Friday night at the first family history fireside sponsored by The Department of Church History, and Doctrine.



Elder Christofferson

The fireside is at 7:30 p.m. in the Joseph Smith Building auditorium. Anyone interested in family history and temple work is invited to attend, said Raymond Wright, chair of the department.

Kip Sperry, an associate professor of church and family history, said the fireside was planned to motivate students to learn more about their ancestors and to understand the importance

of performing temple ordinances for their ancestors.

Wright said the fireside would be an excellent opportunity to learn about what the church is doing now and what it plans for the future.

Wright said Elder Christofferson's calling makes him an appropriate speaker for the inaugural family history fireside, and it is a unique opportunity to listen to him.

Elder Christofferson also serves as the executive director of the church's Family History Department and trustee of the Genealogical Society of Utah.

Elder Christofferson visits campus regularly to learn about the family history activities and is a supporter of family history classes, Wright said.

"The fireside will provide motivation to all students to become involved in family history and temple work, even if they have only a few minutes a week to devote to it," Wright said.

Wright said students should take advantage of the family history opportunities in the area.

"During their studies at BYU, students have a once in a lifetime chance to learn about their families using the

largest genealogical library in the world — the Family History Library in Salt Lake City," Wright said.

"They may also take advantage of what is probably the second largest such library — the Utah Valley Regional Family History Center in the HBLL at BYU," Wright said.

In addition to local resources, students may enroll in family history classes offered by Religious Education.

Each semester about 900 students enroll in Religion 261, Introduction to LDS Family History. Another 100 students take family history classes that focus on research in specific areas, Wright said.

In January, the church also announced a new international database with over six million names on CD-ROM. The Family Search Web site, the world's largest on-line genealogy site, allows users to access more than 640 million entries, according to a news release.

In a news release about upgrades on the church's on-line genealogy site, www.FamilySearch.org, Elder Christofferson said plans extend far beyond the Web site.

Have a message for President Bateman?

Go to the BYU home page.
Click on "President's Page" in the menu column.

or go to

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Log on to www.iexchange.com/bsc/ for more details. Contest starts 2/29/2000. The first 500 entrants get \$50 cash.

No purchase necessary. Void where prohibited. "iExchange.com \$100,000 Challenge" ends May 26, 2000. For official rules and details, log on to www.iexchange.com/bsc/. Contest is open to legal residents of the United States who are full-time or part-time students or faculty members of graduate school or an undergraduate college or university and have access to the internet and are at least 18 years of age as of February 29, 2000. iExchange.com is an idealab! company.

Ready to turn your book smarts into Wall Street smarts? Then enter iExchange.com's first \$100,000 Challenge. We're giving away \$100,000 to the

Passion fuels outdoor store

By **AMBER MEAGER**
Meager@newsroom.byu.edu
 NewsNet Staff Writer

Recreation is his job — his life. And his task is to proselytize it at BYU, he said.

David Webb, manager of Wilkinson Student Center Recreation Services, promoting recreation in a number of ways at BYU.

Webb had a chapter published in a 1999 textbook titled "Adventure Programming," which includes the writings of more than 60 authorities on outdoor recreation.

Webb's chapter, the first in the textbook, describes the philosophy, theory, organizational models and benefits of outdoor adventure programming.

"I believe I was asked to write a chapter because of the prior publishing and presenting I have done, as well as the international reputation of BYU Outdoors Unlimited," he said.

Webb has been manager at BYU's Outdoors Unlimited for the last 17 years.

Outdoors Unlimited, a nationally owned, unsubsidized one-stop shop, outfits people for a number of outdoor adventures, said Jared Carlow, coordinator of WSC Recreation Services.

Outdoors Unlimited is No. 1 nationally in retail and second in rentals and repair, Webb said. He said that sound business principles are what makes it so successful.

Webb's knowledge and innovation have made Outdoors Unlimited what it is today, Carlow said.

"Dave has been the driving force behind Outdoors' evolution for 17 years. He has always been an outdoor



Joanna Caldwell/Daily Universe

Outdoors Unlimited manager David Webb shows off his 1999 textbook titled "Adventure Programming." Webb has been the manager of the BYU's outdoor store for the last 17 years.

enthusiast and has made Outdoors Unlimited one of the most substantial college outdoor programs in the country," Carlow said.

This innovation has led to a decorating theme at Outdoors Unlimited, a step toward making the place look more like a haven for outdoor adventurers, Webb said.

"If you're involved in outdoor adventures, you've got to look like it," Webb said.

An antique collection of outdoor

equipment, including Webb's own gear, has become a part of the decor theme at Outdoors Unlimited.

Webb said the first internal frame backpack, invented by the Lowe Brothers of Ogden, is one of the items on display.

Also displayed is a pair of Blackhead Standard skis from the 1960s. They are the first pair of synthetic skis, nicknamed "the cheater," because now anybody can ski, Webb said.

Webb said the most important recre-

ation proselytizing he does is with BYU students.

He said he tries to create social, environmental and spiritual character in students at BYU through recreational activities.

Webb said his experience during a recent trip to Yellowstone National Park was a spiritual experience.

He said the leaders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints support recreation and recognize its benefits.

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Olympic scholar visits BYU

By **MICHAEL HYTE**
hyte@newsroom.byu.edu
 NewsNet Staff Writer

The Salt Lake Organizing Committee scandal may have cast a shadow over the 2002 Olympic games, but scandal is no stranger to the Olympic tradition, even ancient.

According to a professor of classics at the University of North Carolina.

William H. Race, Paddison professor from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, will speak to BYU students on the original Olympic games tonight at 7:30 in room 205 of the J. Reuben Clark Law School.

The lecture, sponsored by the Department of Humanities, will be presented in honor of J. Reuben

Clark III, a former faculty member and pioneer in Classics at BYU.

"Race is a world-famous scholar on the Greek poet Pindar, who wrote poetry about the victors of the Olympics," said Roger Macfarlane, section head of classics at BYU.

Race said comparing the modern Olympic Games with the ancient Games would be of particular interest in Utah right now.

"I will be talking about the Olympics, how they've changed and how they've stayed the same," Race said.

"I thought coming to Utah it would be a timely subject," Race said.

Macfarlane said he is pleased Race has chosen the subject, and said he feels Race is uniquely qualified to speak on the topic.

Race said the original Olympic

Games had its fair share of scandals.

"The original Olympic Games included rewards, punishments, bribes and scandals. Some cities tried to buy athletes from others, and some athletes were bribed to lose," Race said.

In addition to being extremely prestigious, the original Olympics were reserved for men, Race said.

"Men competed every four years. Women did not compete and could not attend even as spectators. It was a guy thing," Race said.

However, women did have their own Olympics at intervals, though on a smaller scale, Race said.

Race also said although no form of steroids or other performance-enhancing chemicals were used in the original Olympics, diet was very important to the athletes.

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Courting colleges inundate Ricks

Associated Press

REXBURG, Idaho — Walk into Ricks College's student center these days and you'll see tables of representatives from four-year colleges putting their programs to passing students.

They bring professors, Ricks alumni and presidents from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' local Institute program to try to woo the Rexburg students. Some hold open houses, invite them to visit, call and e-mail them and ply them with food.

"There's people here every week trying to recruit us," said Tonya Millar, a sophomore from Rexburg. They're very visible."

Ricks students are in high demand. Colleges wanting to boost enrollment are flocking to the campus looking for students.

And Ricks has a large pool of students. It's one of the largest junior colleges in the country. This semester, more than 8,600 are enrolled at the college owned by the LDS Church.

Ten years ago, only two or three universities visited the Rexburg campus. This year, more than 10 colleges and universities have been at Ricks trying to draw in students.

"This didn't happen years ago," said Jim Gee, an academic vice president at Ricks for 25 years. "Before,

the only colleges who'd come and talk to students were Brigham Young University and Utah State University."

With fewer students graduating from high school in the United States, colleges are scrambling to keep enrollment — and funding — stable. Enrollment often drives how much money states, including Idaho, dole out to their public colleges. More students often means more money.

That, combined with the crowding at BYU, the LDS Church's four-year college in Provo has made Ricks prime recruiting ground.

For years, many viewed Ricks as a pipeline into BYU. Students starting out at Ricks would finish their bachelor's degree in Provo.

But in the last 10 years the relationship has changed. BYU still gets most of its transfer students from Ricks, but its enrollment is burgeoning and it has limited the number of students who can attend.

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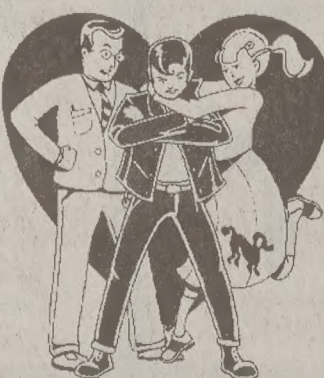
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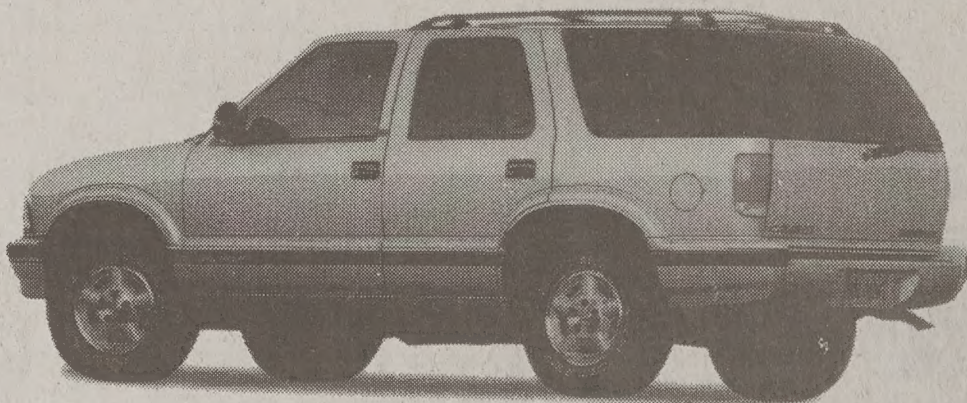
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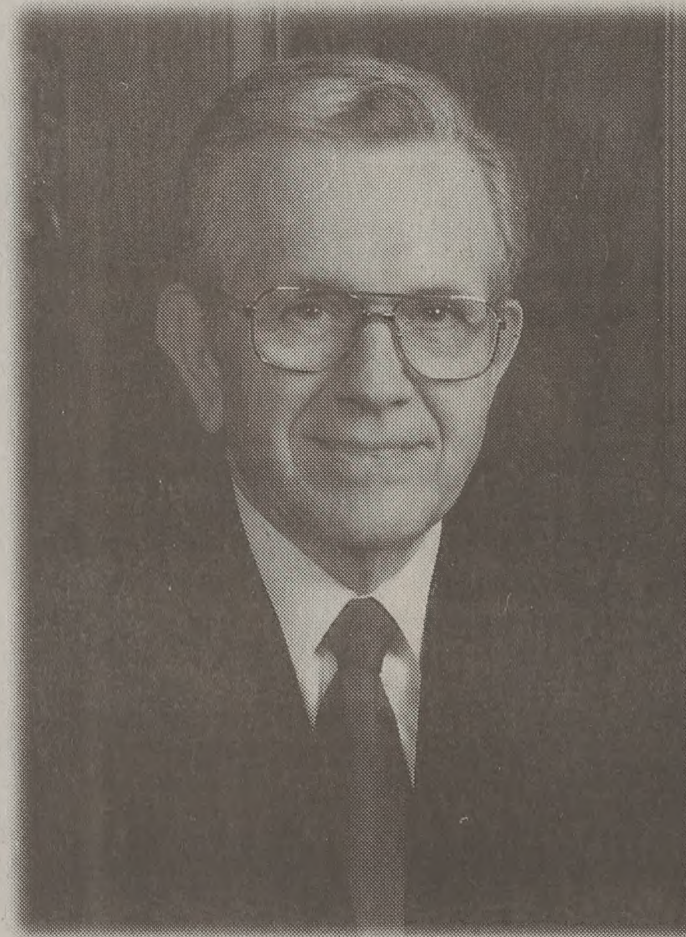
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President Boyd K. Packer

Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

President Boyd K. Packer was set apart as Acting President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in June 1994. He was ordained an Apostle in April 1970. Before that, he served as an Assistant to the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles for almost nine years.

He has also served as president of the New England Mission.

An educator by profession, his career includes service as supervisor of Seminaries and Institutes of Religion for the Church and as a member of the Administrative

Council of Brigham Young University.

He studied at Weber College and subsequently earned his bachelor of science and master of science degrees from Utah State University. He received an EdD in educational administration from BYU. He is the author of a number of books and other published works.

President Packer is a native of Brigham City, Utah, and he served as a bomber pilot in the Pacific Theater during World War II.

He is married to the former Donna Smith, and they are the parents of ten children.

378-TEAM

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God's Army' director to speak in HFAC today

By NATE MATHIS
nate@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Richard Dutcher, writer, producer and director of "God's Army," will be speaking and answering questions about his movie in the HFAC Nelke Theatre today at 11 a.m.

Dutcher, who earned a film degree from BYU, said his experience as a missionary for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Veracruz region of southern Mexico helped him in the making of the movie. "God's Army" is a drama that focuses on the lives of LDS missionaries serving in present-day Los Angeles.

"Usually a film will have a technical adviser. For instance, if the film portrays a police officer, there will be an actual police officer on set to advise the actor," said Dutcher. "I could be the technical adviser according to my experience as a missionary."

According to the movie's news release, "God's Army" is told through the eyes of recent arrival Elder Brandon Allen, an apprehensive and troubled young man still struggling with personal and family matters that have followed him into the mission field. Dutcher co-stars as Allen's companion, Elder Dalton, a passionate convert and former medical student whose unique spiritual perspective affects all with whom he comes into contact.

Dutcher said he has had two loves in life — the gospel and film making — but that his experience writing conventional stories started leading him away from a closer relationship with God. This inspired his decision to write "God's Army."

"I was used to writing mainstream stories, but as I was writing this film I found that I was connecting with something different than I'd connected with before," Dutcher said. "LDS



Janine Fronk (Jacque Gray) listens to fellow LDS missionary Brandon Allen (Matthew Brown) in Richard Dutcher's film "God's Army." The film, which delves deep into the hardships, joys, and life-changing experiences of missionaries will open March 10 at several local theaters.

Church members) don't realize that we have something truly unique because, to us, it all seems so ordinary, but it's not. For the rest of the world, a glimpse into the everyday lives of devout Mormons is a rare and fascinating thing."

Dutcher said the film was originally designed to tell a story, not to convert people, but he agrees that the film will spark interest in the church.

"Return missionaries will take their non-member friends to see the film just to show them how life was as a missionary," said Dutcher. "Many people think that the missionaries just

go out on weekends; they don't understand the sacrifice that missionaries make. The film will help to inform the public."

Dutcher has spoken to several non-members that have been impressed with the film, but he was especially intrigued by what a movie critic from Salt Lake City told him.

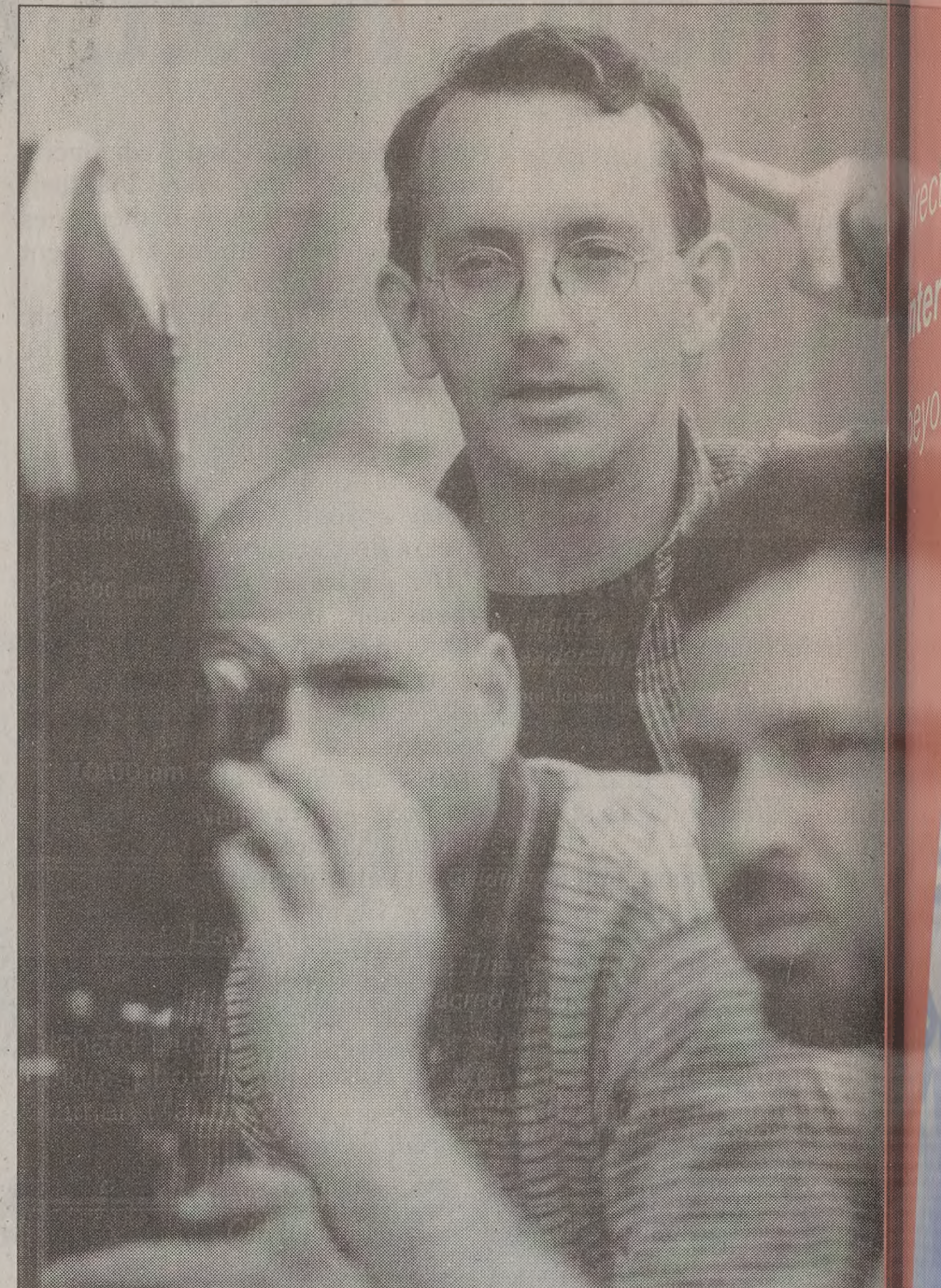
"He said that you can deal with anything in film making except faith. Faith is the last taboo, he said. He told me he was impressed with how the film dealt with the issue of faith," Dutcher said.

Gwen Yuill, Publicity director for

"God's Army" said it is groundbreaking and accessible to moviegoers of all faiths and cultures.

"It is an intelligent, well-crafted and serious examination of the LDS faith and culture through the eyes of true-to-life Mormon characters," Yuill said.

"God's Army" will open to the public on March 10 at the following locations in Utah Valley: Scera Theatre, 745 S. State, Orem; Spanish 8 Theaters, 790 Expressway Lane, Spanish Fork; Provo Towne Center Theaters, 1200 Towne Centre Blvd., Provo; and Water Gardens Cinema 6, 912 W. Garden Drive, Pleasant Grove.



Photos courtesy of Richard Dutcher

Richard Dutcher, top, director, writer and producer of "God's Army" guides photography director Ken Glassing, left, and assistant cameraman Matthew Caudillo during shooting of the film in Hollister, California.

Networks scramble for 'Millionaire' competition

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — On a day just before the bloom came off Fox's "Who Wants to Marry a Multimillionaire?" bouquet, the network was basking in the reality show's heady success.

While Fox won't be sending any gifts to ABC for inspiring the "Multimillionaire" wedding, which soured after disclosures about the groom's past, ABC executive Stu Bloomberg and ABC Entertainment Television Group co-chair Lloyd Braun have every reason to smile.

Their quiz show hosted by Regis Philbin has remained a ratings phenomenon since its debut, powering the network to its best season performance in five years and to its first outright February "sweeps" victory in 12 years.

Bloomberg and Braun are quick to point to what they call across-the-board strength in ABC's schedule, which includes "NYPD Blue," the No. 2 drama behind NBC's "ER," along with such solid performers as "The Practice," "Dharma & Greg" and "The Drew Carey Show."

"Without 'Who Wants to Be a Millionaire,' we would be tied with NBC for the season. What the show has done is turbocharged the schedule," Braun said.

The network contest is not a runaway: For the season to date, ABC has a 9.1 rating and 15 share, with an average of 13.9 million viewers, while second-place NBC has an 8.9 rating and matching 15 share, with an audience averaging 12.9 million.

ABC's noteworthy results reflect the strong partnership that Braun and

Bloomberg have built, the pair said.

When the producer of England's hit version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" sought to sell the concept in America, Bloomberg, a self-described fan of variety and alternative series, grasped the potential — and enjoyed an advantage over other bidders.

Eye brows went skyward over ABC's decision to give the series an unusual kickoff, airing 13 shows over 14 days last August. The move helped make "Millionaire" a U.S. hit and lit the fuse on the quiz and "reality rivalry" show craze that has produced, among others, NBC's "Twenty One" and CBS' upcoming "Survivor."

The executives' boldness inspires jitters outside ABC. Even as other networks jumped on the quiz-show bandwagon, they issued ominous warnings about ABC's dependence on "Millionaire."

"It's like crack," Garth Ancier, NBC entertainment president, said in January. "Once you're on it, it's wonderful because you get these giant ratings. But nobody believes it's going to work forever."

The ABC executives shrug off such comments.

"I don't think it's going to harm our schedule," Bloomberg said. "Any series that is on a night 'Millionaire' is on has its best numbers."

Several analysts say ABC is on the right track for now.

"In much the same way the news magazines proliferated on the networks, there's always that danger of oversaturation," said Bob Flood, senior vice president at advertising firm DeWitt Media in New York.

Weekend

Compiled by MEREDITH YOUNG

Meredith@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Friday

Chamber music students will perform a Mozart serenade with 13 wind instruments at noon in the Howard W. Hunter Law Library. Admission is free.

The Shakedown will play with The Resistors and Summer Shorts at the Timpanogos Elementary School Gym, 449 N. 500 West, Provo, at 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$2.

The Samoa Club will host a free Hip-hop dance from 8 p.m. to midnight in the Knight Mangum Building.

MXPX will play at the Utah State Fairpark's Horticultural Center, 155 N. 1000 West, Salt Lake City. For ticket information call (801) 373-1717.

The National Arena Cross Series, sponsored by Pace Motor Sports, will be at the Delta Center through Monday. For information, visit www.ticketmaster.com

Monday

Bender 13, Audio Armada and St. Ryan's Lament will play at the first all-emo show at Wrapsody, 117 N. University Ave, Provo, at 7 p.m. Admission is \$4.

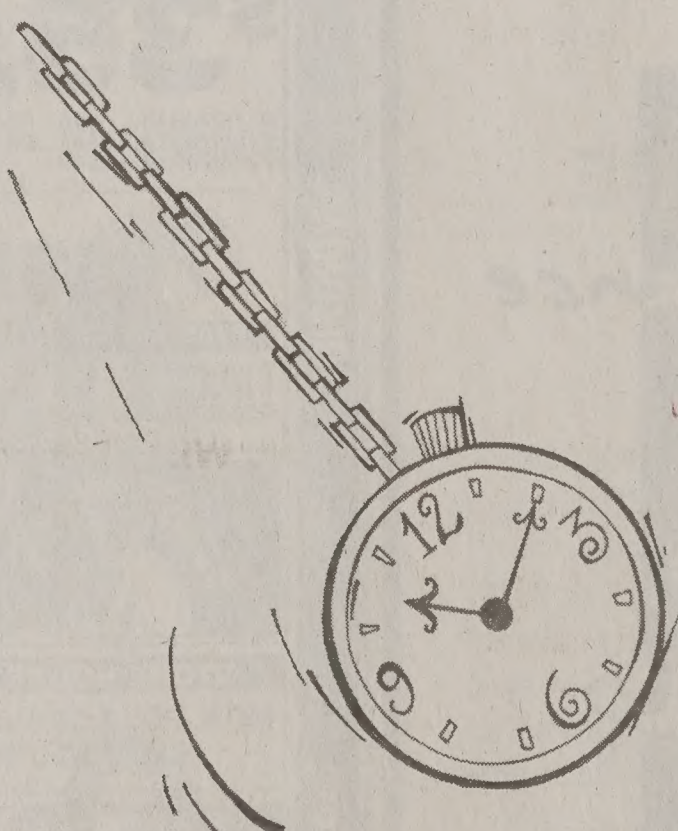
Dale Warland, internationally acclaimed choral conductor, will perform at Abravanel Hall, 123 W. South Temple, Salt Lake City, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$4 for students. For information call ArtTix at (801) 355-ARTS.

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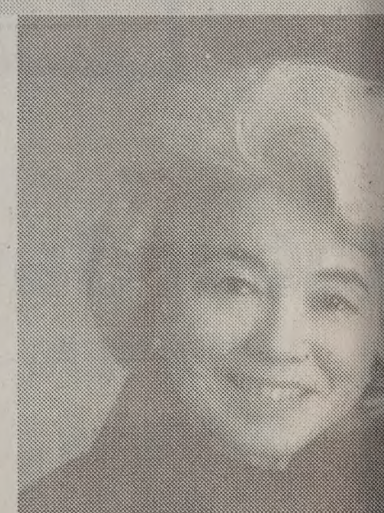
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"Because of the Covenant":
Christ-Centered Leadership

Featuring BYU Women's Chorus; Joni Jensen and Andrew Larson, Conductors
3220 and 3222 WSC

10:00 am Concurrent Sessions (repeated at 11:00 am)

Nancy Young
The Matterhorn, Whales, Sheepdogs, and
My Laundry Room: Guiding the House

Lisa Arrington
Hidden Treasures: The Gospel in
our Historical, Sacred Music

Jill Mulvay Derr
"If I Could Arouse One Sister":
The Energizing Leadership of Eliza R. Snow

Steve Walker
Old Testament Women: Eve's Apple,
Sarah's Feistiness, and Jael's Nail

Cynthia L. Hallen
Success Through Service:
A Rule For All Roles

Sharon Varga
Covenant Citizenship

11:00 am Repeat of Concurrent Sessions

12:00 noon Please join us in 3280 and 3290 WSC for yogurt parfait and information from various groups.

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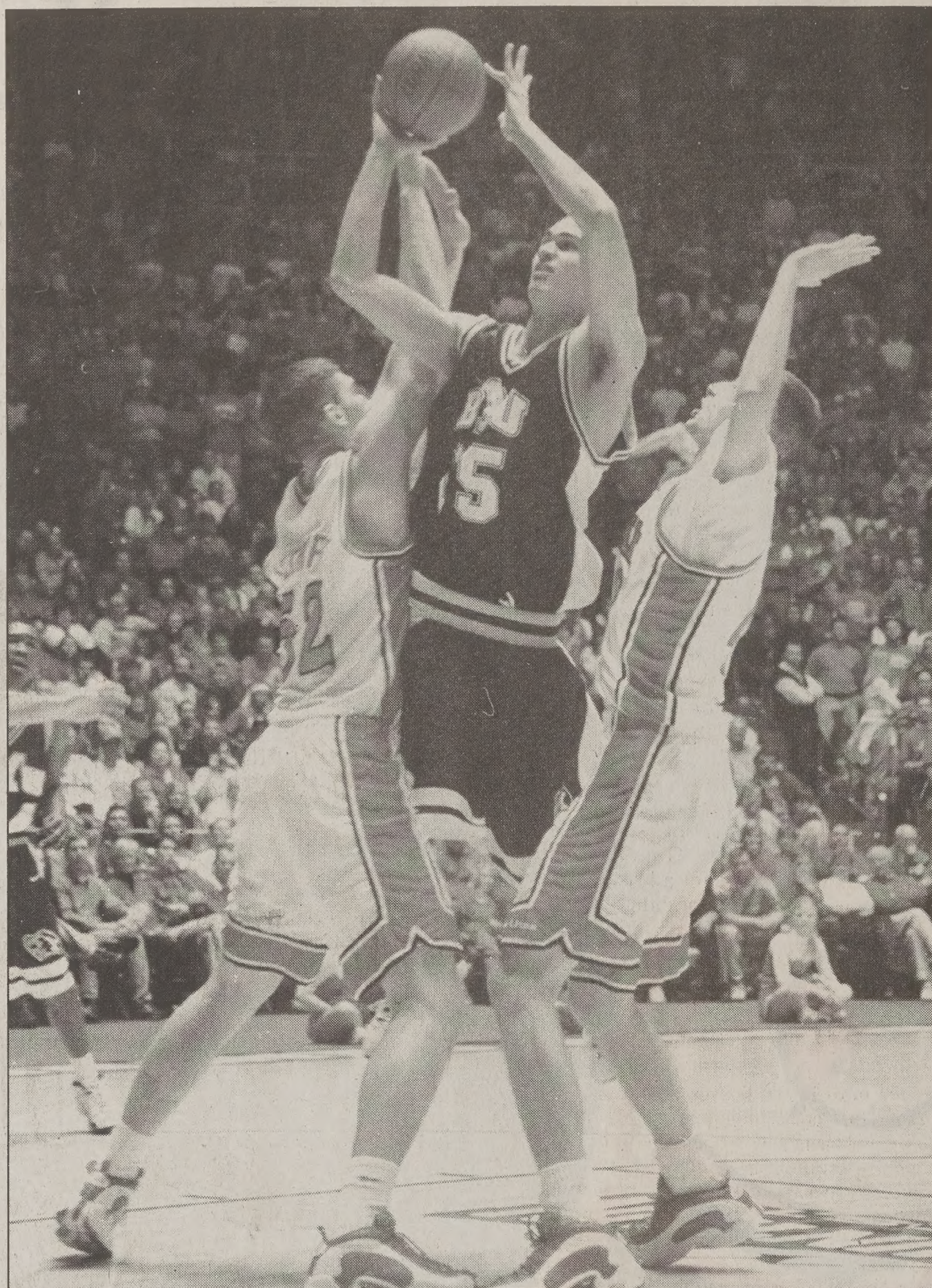
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BYU forward Mekeli Wesley shoots between two Utah defenders in the Cougars' 77-62 loss on Feb. 12. BYU will take on Air Force tonight at 7 in the Marriott Center.

Jack Peterson/
Daily Universe

Women's golf finishes well in California tournament

By CAMILLA SCOTT
Camilla@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

He foresaw the future. After one day in the Bay Area Classic tournament, BYU women's golf coach, Gary Howard, expected his team to move up the tourney ranks from eighth place to fifth or sixth by Tuesday afternoon. And they did. BYU turned its eighth place Monday finish into fifth after good second round performances. "I think as a team we struggled that first day, but they all seemed to come back with more confidence that second round," Howard said.

Sophomore Carrie Summerhays led the team with 145 points over the two-day tournament, tying for second with players from Pepperdine University and San Diego State University.

"Carrie played with more confidence than she has all season," Howard said. Summerhays round of 71, a season low, helped BYU pull into fifth.

BYU finished with 632 points. Pepperdine University, ranked 15th, won the tournament by 19 strokes over SDSU and by 45 over the Cougars.

"They always have an upper edge," Jessica Gardner said. While BYU has been trapped inside the Smith Fieldhouse annex the last few months, much of their competition has practiced in good weather and played in other tournaments.

Gardner said the team wanted to go out and show the competition that even though it practices in snowy weather, it can play well in tournaments.

As far as other tourney goals, Howard wanted to beat the University of Nevada at Reno. Nevada stayed on the Cougar's tail through the two rounds, but could not pull ahead.

Looking into the fresh spring season, Howard hopes to develop more consistency.

"There were scattered bright spots, but not many put together," Howard said about the Bay Classic results.

Howard also hopes to lower the team's stroke average with each tournament. He would like to see each golfer take off one or two strokes.

"If we can take four to six strokes off a tournament, it will really help," Howard said. BYU returns to California Saturday for the three-day Spartan Invitational in Monterey, teeing off against four top-20 teams.

Women's basketball team has high hopes for MWC conference seeding

By ANNA HAYNIE
Haynie@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

It's down to the last week of play for the Mountain West Conference, and things couldn't be more up in the air. Anything could happen. Three teams, Utah, Colorado State, and University of New Mexico, are tied for first place in the conference.

They all share a 9-3 record. With their five-point victory over Utah last week, the Cougars (8-4) are still close behind at fourth place, just one game shy of making first place a four-way tie.

UNLV is right behind BYU at fifth place, while SDSU and Wyoming are tied at sixth place.

With an 18-7, 8-4 record, the BYU women's basketball team is doing better than it has done since its 92-93 season when it took first place in the conference tournament.

The Cougars are looking for a little of that same success this time around.

"If we take care of our business here I think we can end up in third place going into the tournament," head coach Trent Shippen said.

The women's basketball team closes out the season with two games at home.

"The two games this week will be huge in determining our seeding in the conference," senior Lori Cuff

said. "We have to do well."

The games will influence not only their conference standings, but their chances of seeing some NCAA action as well.

"If we can get these two games, it will make a huge difference in the NCAA," senior Jill Adams said. "BYU just beat Utah, and if we beat UNM, another first place contender right now, they would have to look at us for NCAA."

Tonight the Cougars attempt to shake up the conference standings as they open up a double-header against the Air Force Academy, in the Marriott Center today at 5 p.m.

Air Force has gone on a nine-game losing skid. In their last meeting against Air Force, the Cougars slaughtered the Falcons (4-21, 1-11) on their home court, 94-63.

The Cougars took more points than the Falcons had given up the whole season.

But this does not guarantee a win. "We've learned a couple times the hard way, that you can't overlook any team," Adams said.

The Falcon's main strength is three-point shooting. "If they are shooting well from the outside, they could cause some problems," Shippen said.

"We need to come out from the beginning playing strong and we should come out on top."

The Cougars end the season Saturday against UNM and then head to the conference tournament in Las Vegas next week.

"The two games this week will be huge in determining our seeding in the conference."

—Lori Cuff
Senior Forward

Football team prepares for spring practices



Ethan Scott/Daily Universe

Defensive lineman Byron Frisch chases down Colorado State's quarterback Steve Newton last season. The BYU team football begins practice Friday.

Cougars face challenge of difficult schedule and new

By RUSS RIGGS
Russ@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

Going into spring practice this Friday, BYU's football team has many questions to answer.

How will the new coaches pan out? Who will replace Kevin Peterik?

Will the offensive line come together?

And how will the Cougars replace Rob Morris and Brian Gray on defense?

Well, at least BYU will be able to ease into its schedule this fall to help the young players along.

Wrong. In addition to filling some major gaps, the Cougars will have to mature quickly as they face what could be their toughest competition ever.

BYU opens up against defending national champion Florida State, then travels to Charlottesville for a rematch with Virginia.

Before September is over, the Cougars will also have played at Syracuse and Air Force, and opened up at home with Mississippi State.

Not exactly the way to bring along a young quarterback.

Back to boot camp

Cougars primed for pivotal season finale at home

By SETH LEWIS
Lewis@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

After the BYU men's basketball team took Monday off, Tuesday's workout was supposed to be a light one.

What it turned into was boot camp.

"It was an intense, focused practice — the kind of practice we needed," coach Steve Cleveland said.

That meant running — and lots of it — for every mistake.

"We just got back to basics," Cleveland said.

That meant harping on what used to be the Cougars' life preserver — their defense.

And it couldn't have come at a better time as the Cougars head into a season finale home-stand against Air Force tonight at 7 and San Diego State on Saturday.

"We definitely know the urgency of winning those two games," Cleveland said.

Urgency is right. Win these two and BYU — sixth in the Mountain West Conference at 5-7 — can possibly grab the fifth seed for next week's league tournament.

"We surely don't want to go any lower than (fifth)," junior forward Mekeli Wesley said.

Even more, an 18-9 team is just what the NIT likes.

"Right now, it's a little premature

to think about the NIT," Cleveland said. "We have to worry about Air Force."

Pick your worries.

There's the bulldozer-size hole in the middle caused by the sudden absence of Silester Rivers, who underwent career-ending knee surgery Tuesday.

"Silester was the strongest guy on the team," Wesley said. "He was able to do a lot of things that didn't show up on the stat sheet."

Like providing the kind of body-bruising interior defense his teammates couldn't.

"That's where we're going to miss him — his wide body inside," Cleveland said.

Sure, Rivers' absence probably will not be felt immediately since Air Force (8-17, 4-8) and San Diego State

aren't much bigger than the diminutive Cougars.

But the test will come if the Cougars' draw a first-round date with UNLV's Kaspars Kambala or Colorado State's Cedric Goodwyn in the MWC tournament.

In the meantime, Cleveland will rotate John Allen and Nathan Cooper into the vacancy.

"We're all going to be playing a lot more with Les out," freshman guard Marc Roberts said. "We were just saying in the locker room today, 'It's a lot different without

Les."

Question is, will it be a

around the basket?

"The No. 1 thing we have to rebound," Cleveland said. "That and stop the rebound specialist — forward Tom Bellairs, who lives on the boards in the Falcons' 62nd month ago."

"That was a fantastic rebound, and a terrible part of the game who was guarding him," Cleveland said. "Most of the time it's

After juggling the starting lineup, replacing Matt M with Roberts in Saturday's Wyoming, Cleveland is

Vranes again at the point with Todd Christensen and Lyday on the wing.

"You put three shooters on the floor ... and it's the best against Air Force," Cleveland

Mountain West Conference Men's Basketball Standings

Team	W	L	Pct.
1. Utah	9	4	.692
2. UNLV	8	4	.667
3. New Mexico	8	4	.667
4. Wyoming	8	5	.615
5. Colorado St.	7	5	.583
6. BYU	5	7	.417
7. Air Force	4	8	.333
8. San Diego State	0	12	.000

Mountain West Conference Tournament
March 9-11 (Thursday-Saturday)
Thomas & Mack Center, Las Vegas, Nevada



Jenny Barnes

Stacy Jensen drives hard to the basket against a Ute in January. The Cougars sit at fourth place in the conference behind a three-way tie.

Football team prepares for spring practices

Cougars face challenge of difficult schedule and new

By RUSS RIGGS
Russ@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

Brandon Doman, one of the three quarterbacks expected to contend for the position, said the players are anxious to get spring practice underway and get the bad taste out of their mouths.

"I think the entire team is excited," Doman said. "We're excited about the changes and we have a lot of energy. We want to see what Lance Reynolds will do."

"We're excited about the changes and we have a lot of energy. We want to see what Lance Reynolds will do."

Because the quarterback position at BYU is similar to falling into a bonfire, all eyes will be on Doman and fellow quarterbacks Bret Engemann and Charlie Peterson.

"They're both very good quarterbacks; we just lack experience," Doman said.

"The coaches have sat us down and said that the guy who moves the ball the best will be the starting quarterback."

While the Cougars will lack experience at the quarterback position, they are loaded at others.

The running back position will feature freshman standout Luke Staley and powerful fullback Kalani Sitake. In addition, the Cougars hope to have

halfback Junior Mahe

lineup.

At wide receiver, the Cougars have a host of talented players. All-American candidate Kevin Hooks.

Assisting Hooks will be starter Ben Horton, along with Rigell and Jonathan Pittman.

"Spring practice is going to be interesting," Pittman said. "It's a lot of new faces, but I think it should be solid."

Defensively, the Cougars will have a spring practice without their defensive anchors Rob Morris and Brian Gray, who have aspirations to play in the NFL.

However, BYU will have a lot of experience with the likes of Holtry, Setema Gali, and Chris Hoke. A few junior transfers will help solidify the defense.

"I think we'll be as tough as last year, but we're not going to work hard. We're excited about the schedule."

For die-hard football fans, the spring practice and the spring game will be March 25, is a special event in the middle of the season.

And for the Cougars, the spring practice will be a chance to gain experience for the upcoming season.

"We want to at least be in the top 10," Pittman said.

Men's gymnasts see the end

By JAMES RANDALL
James@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Sports Writer

BYU men's athletics programs are dropping like flies.

After bidding the wrestling team farewell two weeks ago, BYU loses another men's athletic program this week as the men's gymnastics will hold its last home meet, yes — EVER!

The timing of the demise of the program couldn't have come at a worse time. After 44 years of BYU men's gymnastics, the last two years have produced the two highest finishes ever, finishing at fifth in the nation for back-to-back years.

Of course, having the first national champions ever from BYU, both on the team this year, has not hurt the Cougars recent success.

Over the 13 years that head coach Mako Sakamoto has coached at BYU, he has nurtured five All-Americans. Two of those five are on this year's team. In addition to being All-Americans, Courtney Bramwell and Guard Young are both national champions as well.

Bramwell is the national champion on the rings, going undefeated last year. His undefeated streak has continued this year and he's on track for another national championship.

Young, an Olympic hopeful, is

the national champion on vault. He also finished fourth in the all-around last year. Young is a candidate for the Nissen award this year as the top male gymnast in the country.

Sadly, in the last season ever, the team has only two home meets. On Saturday night in a meet, the Cougars will have one of those rare home meets as they face Temple and the University of Washington at 7 p.m. in the Smith Fieldhouse.

After being on the road almost all of the season, the Cougars still remember what it feels like to be at home.

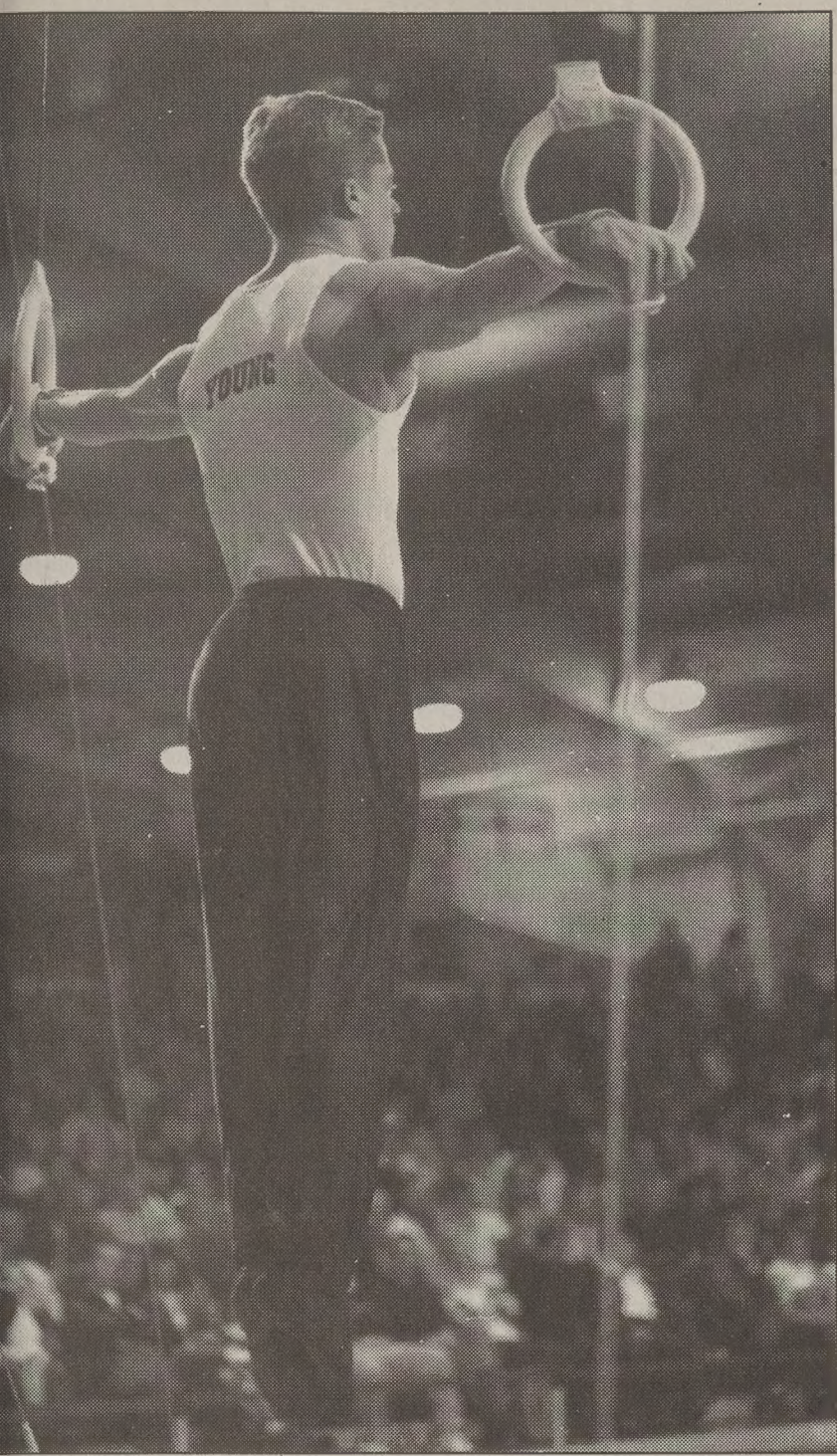
"At the home meets there's the support that you don't get at all of the away meets," said assistant coach, Kenzo Koshimura. "It's an extra boost, extra energy."

Head Coach Mako Sakamoto agrees.

"They do better at home," said Sakamoto. "They're used to the equipment and surroundings. It's familiar territory."

In the only other home meet of the season, BYU easily beat Stanford. Last week in California, the Cougars easily lost to the same Stanford team.

"It was a combination," said Sakamoto. "The different equipment, environment, travel and fatigue all combined. Guard (Young) was in Australia for a Pre-Olympic test event, and that didn't help either."



File Photo

last Guard Young balances on the rings. Young is for the Olympics, though the BYU program is ending.

s tennis teams prepare tough weekend and U of U

ANDON ZINN
newsroom.byu.edu
et Sports Writer

ennis team looks to start streak today against at 10 a.m. at the Smith floor tennis courts.

His life will also try to continue defeated conference against Utah in Salt

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faced will have been

and Cougs are 4-3 and cur-
three-game winning
completely healthy for the
his year, their first com-

don't know how good we
ch Craig Manning said.
so many injuries and
played at full strength
needed to play a lot."

oday's match against

Southern Methodist University, four of the six singles matches went into the third set.

"It was good to play some long matches in getting ready for the road trip," Manning said.

The men's team is coming off a tough loss to No. 26 Boise State.

Damien Ward and Gert Vilms, ranked No. 15 in doubles, defeated No. 14 Leif Meineke and Wesley

Moodie, but BYU still lost the doubles point.

Vilms then went on to beat No. 74 Moodie in straight sets, but BYU lost the dual meet with a score of 5-2.

"I think the guys will come out fired up," men's head coach Jim Osborne said. "They are really mad they let one get away."

As for the odd 10 a.m. starting time for its match today, Osborne said it's not too bad because the team has a match with Utah on Saturday and it gives BYU more time to focus on the match.

"When it comes to Utah and BYU, ranking doesn't matter. Last year the visiting team won both matches," Osborne said.

"Our team goal this year is to destroy Utah both times."

"Our team goal this year is to destroy Utah both times."

—Jim Osborne,
men's tennis head coach

Rocker's suspension halved

Associated Press

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — Now comes the hard part for John Rocker — making amends with teammates, fans and society in general.

The Atlanta Braves reliever was cleared for spring training Wednesday when his suspension was cut in half by an independent arbitrator, who ruled that Rocker should sit out the first 14 days of the regular season for offending gays, minorities and foreigners. His \$20,000 fine was also cut to \$500.

The decision, the first by baseball's new arbitrator Shyam Das, was criticized by commissioner Bud Selig. He said it "completely ignores the sensibilities of those groups of people maligned by Mr. Rocker and disregards the player's position as a role model for children."

On Jan. 31, Selig banned Rocker from all 45 days of spring training and the first 28 days of the season for his comments in Sports Illustrated. Rocker and the players' association asked the arbitrator to overturn the decision, saying it was out of line with past sanctions.

Rocker planned to be at the Braves' training complex, just south of Orlando, on Thursday for a private meeting with his teammates prior to Atlanta's first exhibition game. He also was scheduled to hold a news conference.

"He can issue all the apologies he wants. That's the easy thing to do," Braves pitcher Tom Glavine said. "But we'll see if he means it by how he acts every day after that."

While most in the Braves organization said they are willing to give Rocker a second chance, it's clear he returns on shaky ground. Teammates have grumbled privately that his bombastic, self-centered persona was annoying even before the magazine interview in December.

"He has to be more mature dealing with certain situations and dealing with his teammates," said outfielder Brian Jordan, one of Rocker's most vocal critics. "He's got to learn to control his anger. I think that's a big reason he said what he said."

General manager John Schuerholz, who is notoriously tightlipped about trade talks, conceded there was interest in Rocker from other teams and implied a deal could be made if the reliever continues to threaten clubhouse harmony.

In any trade, the Braves would likely insist on another top-level reliever to replace the 25-year-old left-hander who saved 38 games a year ago — one short of the franchise record.

"We're going to see if John can make the kind of corrections that are expected," Schuerholz said. "This gives us an opportunity to see if he and his teammates can become a cohesive unit again."

Rocker joins a long list of players whose suspensions have been overturned or reduced by arbitrators, a group that includes Willie Aikens, Steve Howe (twice), LaMarr Hoyt, Ferguson Jenkins, Jerry Martin, Pascual Perez, Tony Phillips, Gilberto Reyes and Willie Wilson.

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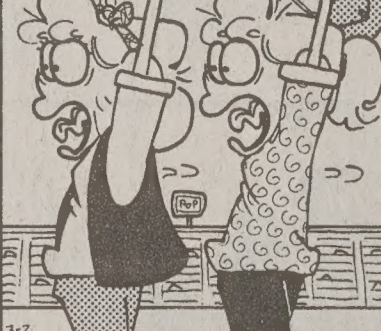
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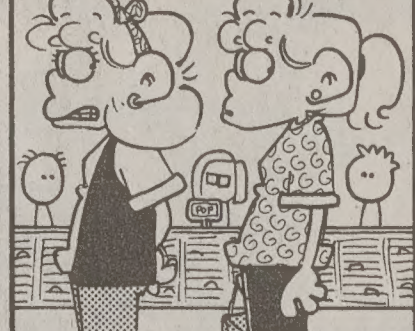
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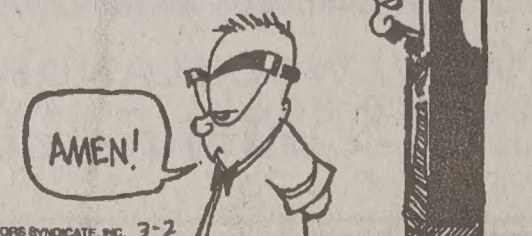
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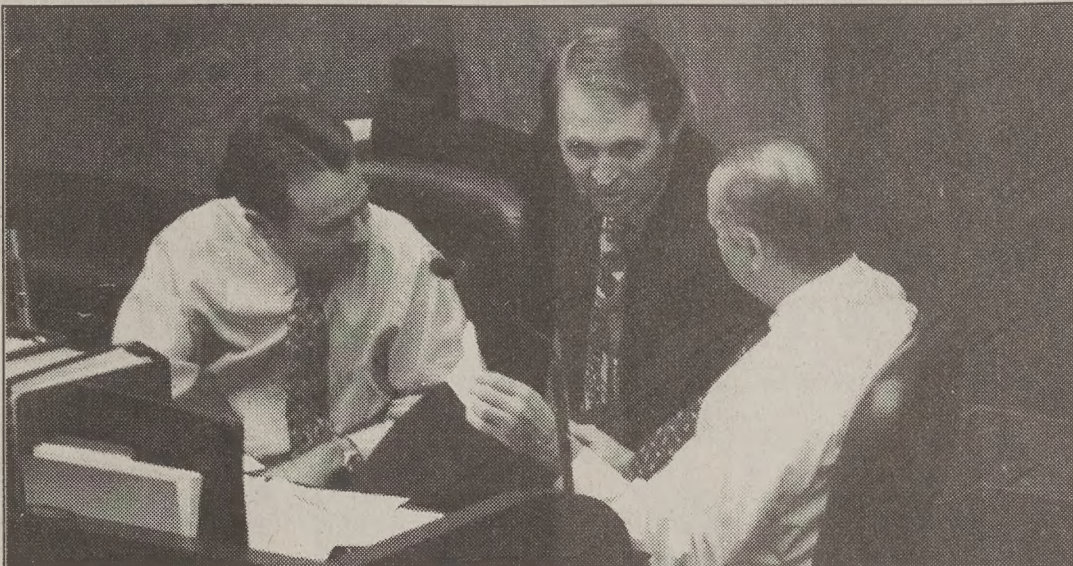
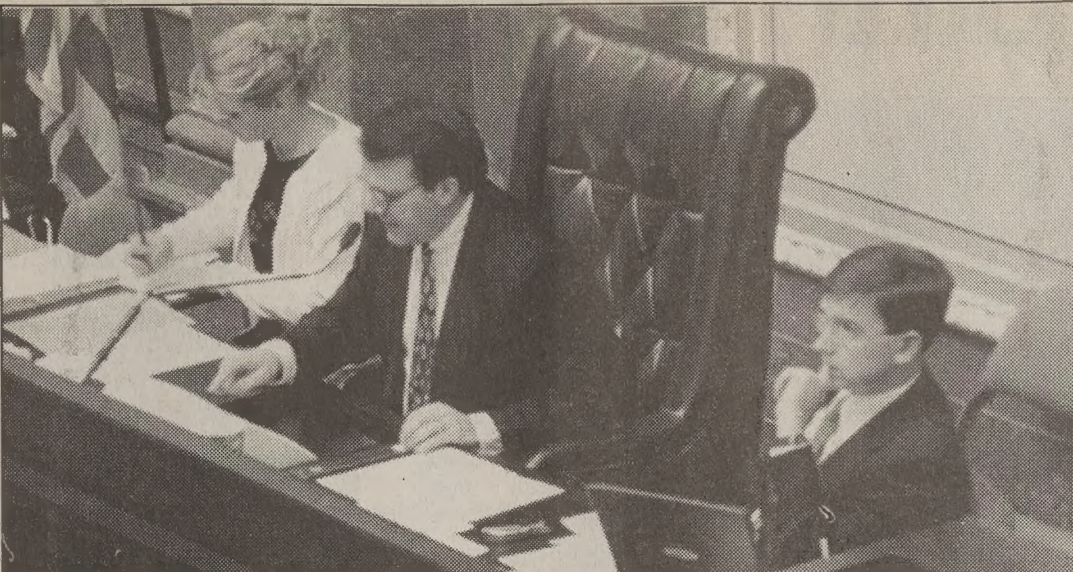
RULES from page 1

WPU in 10 years," Sorensen said.
 "We've involved many more people,
 we've had huge community support,
 we have been successful in getting
 \$30 million in ongoing programs and
 \$6 million for textbooks and supplies.
 "Is the outcome perfect? No. Have
 we worked to no avail? Absolutely
 not!" Sorensen said.

Perhaps the most controversial edu-
 cation bill, which will amend sex edu-
 cation to be abstinence-based, passed
 Wednesday in the Senate with a vote
 of 16 to 13.

Sen. Michael Waddoups, R-Tay-
 lorsville, said he thought it was the
 most important bill of the entire ses-
 sion.

Waddoups said teachers have been
 teaching sex-education using outside
 material that does not conform to



(Upper photo) Chandra Johnson/Daily Universe
 (lower photo) Jenny Barnett/Daily Universe

Utah legislators take charge, top, and huddle in a conference ,lower,
 Monday at the legislative session. The 2000 session wrapped up
 Wednesday night.

LEGIS from page 1

fessors in this state I'd hate to lose,
 and we may lose some."

The Executive Appropriations
 Committee managed to drum up an
 extra \$1.5 million for higher educa-
 tion Wednesday, from a \$4.3 million
 stash lawmakers held in reserve after
 distributing money to committees.

Aside from education, Republicans
 and Democrats differed on which
 issues were the highlights of the ses-
 sion.

Republicans championed the var-
 ied allocations for the tobacco settle-
 ment money, as well as funding to
 open an additional youth correction
 facility in Carbon County.

Rep. Greg Curtis, R-Salt Lake, said
 he was pleased with the budget.
 "We've built a tough budget without
 putting the state in debt," Curtis
 said.

House Minority Leader Dave Jones
 praised Rep. Judy Ann Buffmire's
 legislation requiring insurance com-
 panies to provide catastrophic men-
 tal health coverage as "a huge
 accomplishment."

Democrats hailed legislation that
 gave Utah a Martin Luther King, Jr.
 Day.

In other last-day action, the Senate

state law and addresses such topics as
 proper condom-use, how to prevent
 HIV infection and role-playing.

"This bill makes clear the intention
 of the state, which is abstinence
 before marriage and fidelity after
 marriage," Waddoups said.

Opponents of the bill agreed that it
 was of high importance.

"If we pass this bill, our children
 will learn about sex on the bathroom
 walls or playgrounds, not in the
 classroom," said Sen. Pete Suazo, D-
 Salt Lake City.

Suazo said because Utah has one of
 the highest teenage pregnancy rates
 of all the states in the nation, schools
 need to encourage mature discussion
 about sex.

Senate President Lane Beattie said
 that after abstinence education is
 approved, teachers will be allowed to
 teach about use of birth control with-
 in the bounds of marriage.

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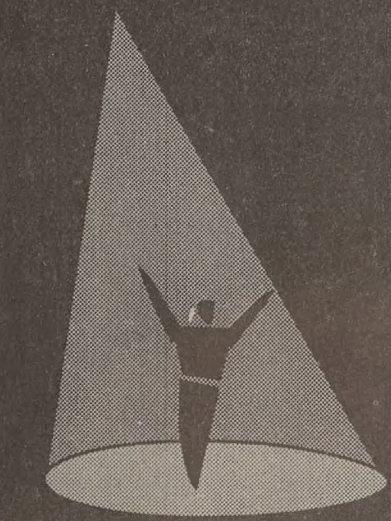


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Flood victim gives birth in treetops

Associated Press

MAPUTO, Mozambique — Floods have forced about 1 million people from their homes in Mozambique, but even they cannot stop other forces of nature: A woman gave birth Wednesday to a baby girl in a treetop where she had lived above raging water for four days.

An hour later, Sophia Pedro and her daughter were rescued after a medic climbed down from a helicopter to cut the newborn's umbilical cord.

The dramatic rescue came as thousands more Mozambicans remain stranded in trees, on rooftops or on sinking spits of land, sometimes ready waist-deep in water from weeks of rain. Thousands more are feared dead in the flooding that has devastated one of the world's poorest countries.

"We speak of 1 million people on the move at the moment," President Joaquim Chissano told reporters Wednesday, offering an estimate of the number of people displaced by the rising waters.

Lt. Col. Jaco Klopfer, commander of South African rescue operations, said it would take up to four days to complete rescue operations in the southern Gaza province alone. Thousands of other people are trapped farther north along the swollen Save River valley.

Pedro, 26, and her newborn daughter Rositha were among 915 people rescued from the floodwaters in central Mozambique on Wednesday by South African military helicopters.

Rositha was born as a rescue helicopter hovered overhead and began hoisting the eight occupants of the tree to safety.

Helicopter pilot Chris Berlyn said crew member Stewart Back had been lowered into the tree and discovered that Pedro was about to give birth. He said the child was born two minutes later.

Berlyn raced back to a base camp to pick up Godfrey Nongovela, a medic. Nongovela and other members of the crew managed to get the woman and child safely aboard the helicopter.

"We took them to Chibuto, where the police took them to a clinic," Berlyn said.

An exhausted Pedro said from her hospital bed that she was happy to have been rescued along with three other members of her family. But she said her grandmother died in the floods.

Nurses fussed over Rositha and said the baby appeared to be doing fine.

More than 6,000 people have been rescued in recent days. Hundreds of thousands are homeless but safe on remote patches of high ground, and tens of thousands are seeking help in refugee camps that aid agencies are throwing together near the flood zone.

Most have been without food and clean water for days. Klopfer, the South African military commander, said 39 tons of food aid had been dropped to stranded flood victims Wednesday.



AFP Photo

Mozambicans stranded on a small island on the flooded banks of the Save River wait to be rescued as water levels continue to rise. At least 164 people have already been killed by this month's floods and by Cyclone Eline, which struck Feb. 23.

Utah County job growth ranks 22nd among largest counties

By MATT LEMMON

lemmon@newsroom.byu.edu
NewsNet Staff Writer

Economic growth holds strong in Utah Valley.

Utah County ranked 22nd in job growth among the nation's 301 largest counties, according to the Utah Valley Economic Development Association's 1999 Annual Report.

That ranking came from a 4.7 percent increase in average annual pay and a 5.1 percent change in job growth. The association's annual year-end report also indicates an increase in construction, consistent with the building boom of the past 12 years.

The report cites the predictions of R. Thayne Robson, director of the Bureau of Economic and Business Research. He said the "remarkable building trend" will likely continue for at least two more years.

According to the report, 4,906 building permits were issued in 1999. The total cost of those projects is estimated at \$685 million.

The report says there are now 187 businesses or organizations in Utah County that employ more than 100 people.

It also reports that there are 435 high-technology companies operating in the valley, employing 11.1 percent of employed people in the county.

Utah Valley's continual growth comes in spite of a tight economic slowing in the rest of the state.

"Utah Valley is growing at a faster rate than the rest of the Wasatch Front," said Darrell Cook, executive director of Mountainland Association of Governments.

On a state level, the economy continues to grow, but

the rate of that growth has slowed, said Natalie Gochnour, an economist in the governor's office.

"Our economy actually peaked six years ago. We are in our sixth year of a tempering of growth," Gochnour said. According to Cook, Utah Valley's rate of growth did not stop increasing until late 1996.

Gochnour said Utah County was the third-fastest growing county in the state in terms of population growth last year. This is unusual for a county its size, she said.

Tooele and Piute counties exceeded Utah County in percentage of population growth last year. But for Piute County, that does not represent much of an increase, as its population is only about 1,600.

Cook said that while growth provides higher income for individuals, there are some challenges that come with it.

Economic growth and the population swell that accompanies it put a strain on infrastructures such as water lines, sewage line, roads and highways, he said.

Gochnour said it would have been difficult for the state to continue to sustain the kind of growth it saw in 1994.

In response to continual growth, the state Legislature held a growth summit in 1995 to develop a 10-year growth-improvement plan.

The state of Utah and Utah County are working together to take care of growth-related issues, Cook said.

He said it is important for cities to "think regionally" and work together on this issue, because growth in one community affects growth in all neighboring communities.

The best approach, he said, is to plan as far ahead as possible.

By doing this, he said, "we can deal with it in the most cost effective and socially responsible way."

Women's groups praise Egypt for modifying strict divorce laws

Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — An unprecedented 20 women filed for divorce in Cairo today, the first day of a new law making it easier for wives to leave their husbands.

"Twenty divorce cases in one day is considered a boom," a court official said on customary condition of anonymity. "I think our work will double."

The law, which faced strong criticism in this male-dominated Muslim country, was approved by parliament on Jan. 26 and by President Hosni Mubarak three days later.

A 36-year-old woman who was among the first women to file a divorce case today accused her husband of mistreating her, taking a bank loan under her name without repaying it and bouncing checks, her lawyer Nagi Sayed said.

Under the old law, women had to prove they were physically or psychologically harmed by their husbands in order to obtain a divorce. Men in Egypt can divorce their wives anytime and without the approval of a court or any other authority.

Under the new law, women can declare before a judge that they want a divorce. The judge will give them a three-month period to try to reconcile. If the women don't change their minds, a divorce is granted.

Women who divorce their husbands must return their dowries and relinquish all financial claims, including alimony. Child support payments are not affected under the new law.

The law was praised by women's groups as an improvement, though flawed, over the old order. Even Mohammed Sayed Tantawi, the country's top theologian and the grand sheik of Al-Azhar University, mainstream Islam's most prestigious religious institution, said it was in line with Islamic law.

Hard-line Muslim clergymen described it as a threat to social stability.

Volcano leaves thousands homeless

Associated Press

LEGAZPI, Philippines — U.S. military and embassy officials visited crowded evacuation centers around Mayon volcano Wednesday and promised to help the more than 7,000 people displaced by its recent eruptions, officials said.

Defense Secretary Orlando Merca said the U.S. military volunteered to set up tent cities and provide water purifiers for the evacuation centers.

After a series of moderate eruptions Monday, Mayon was quiet early Wednesday, but scientists predicted further strong explosions.

Officials ordered everyone within a five-mile danger zone to leave their homes after Mayon began erupting Thursday. The frequent eruptions sent lava into the sky and rained hot rocks and brownish-gray ash up to two inches thick on nearby towns.

Thousands of villages are without electricity because the ash has shorted out power line insulators, officials said.

The number of evacuees has jumped to more than 57,000 since Monday, when the eruptions intensified, said Cedric Daep, head of the Albay provincial disaster management office.

He said the number of villages threatened by pyroclastic flows — deadly superheated clouds of ash and volcano debris — has jumped from seven to 49.

No casualties have been attributed to Mayon's eruptions except for a 70-year-old woman who died of a heart attack during Monday's explosions. But health officials are worried about the spread of diseases in the cramped schools used as evacuation centers.

At one school Wednesday, families cooked inside a classroom while teachers held classes under plastic tarps in the yard outside. A group of small children bathed under a faucet in the front yard.

Michael Melinoski, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy, said U.S. troops may contribute equipment being used in joint military exercises called "Balikatan," which end today.

"Our people from Balikatan will figure out what they could do and what they may have to meet those needs, or what we may do from other assets we have around the world," Melinoski said.

Residents of the farming village of Mulabucab Pequeno decided to flee to evacuation centers when Mayon began raining sand and pebbles, some still hot to the touch, over the village, said village chief Pedro Oribiana.

"It has been the worst ash fall that we have experienced," he said. Windows and doors were shut tight throughout the village, but Oribiana said the powdery ash still was seeping in. "It is everywhere."

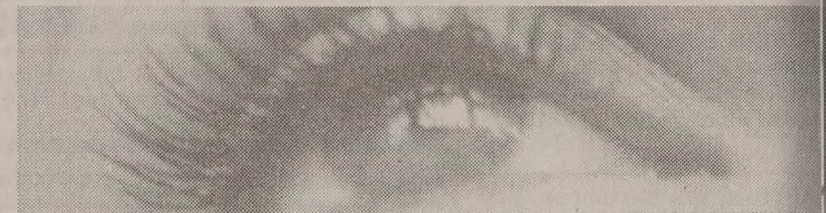
Along the road, farmers busily harvested crops to prevent them from being spoiled. Strong gusts of winds stirred up the ash that had settled on trees and roofs, creating small dust storms.

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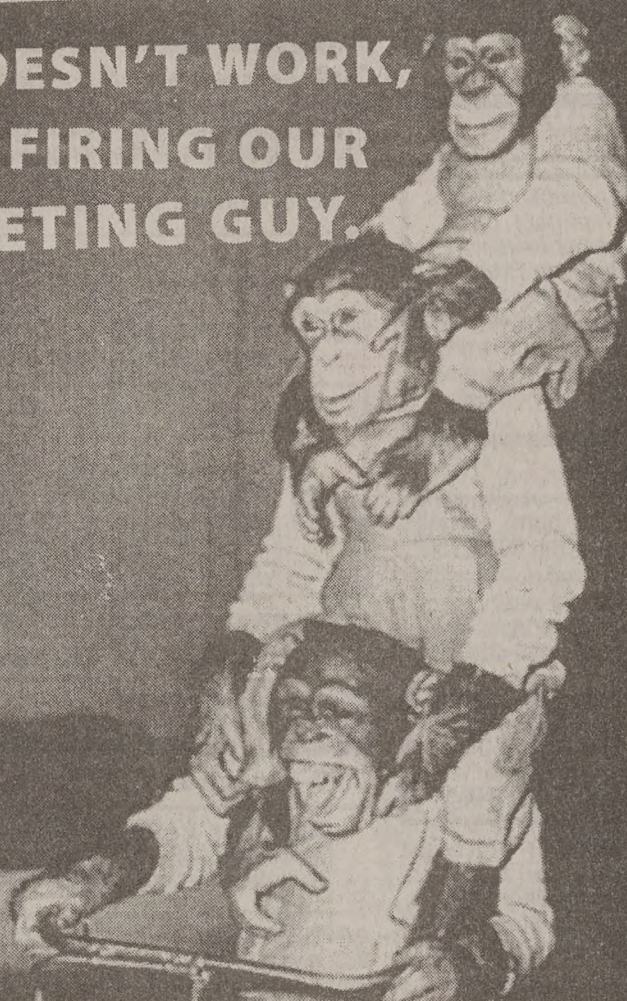
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